

OHIO DAY

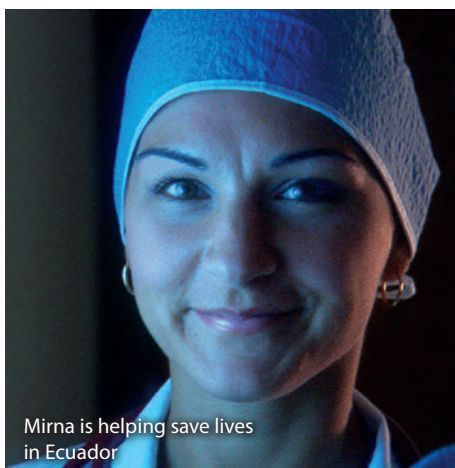
SPRING/SUMMER 2008

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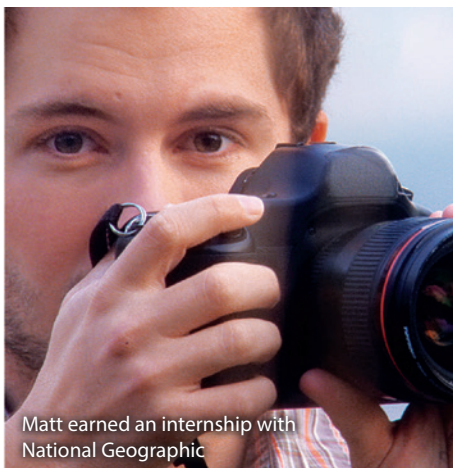
UNIVERSITY

Graduates to Watch

"Storytelling transcends time," says Morgan Riles, a filmmaker who hopes to tell others' stories. But already, her own tale commands attention. Her documentaries have focused on her grant-funded research expedition to New Zealand and an installation by internationally acclaimed artist Angelo Vermeulen. (Early cuts of Morgan's film screened in Belgium and France with his exhibit.) Next stop? New York to pursue a career in film editing.



Mirna is helping save lives
in Ecuador



Matt earned an internship with
National Geographic



Heather performed
at Carnegie Hall

Discover a promise first made by Manasseh Cutler of what Ohio University could be, of a quality education, of a vibrant campus community, of a bright future, and of learning that lasts for a lifetime.

OHIO students are living proof of this promise.

A promise fulfilled through student experiences, through faculty who care, through quality programs, and through a beautiful place that inspires students to discover their potential.

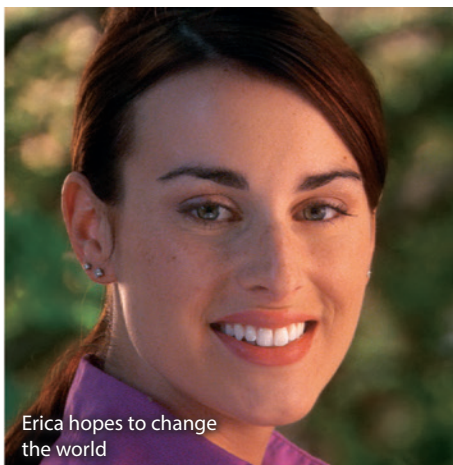
Please give to the Ohio University Annual Fund and honor our historic promise to help advance Ohio University into the future by supporting students, faculty, innovative programs, technological enhancements, and much more.



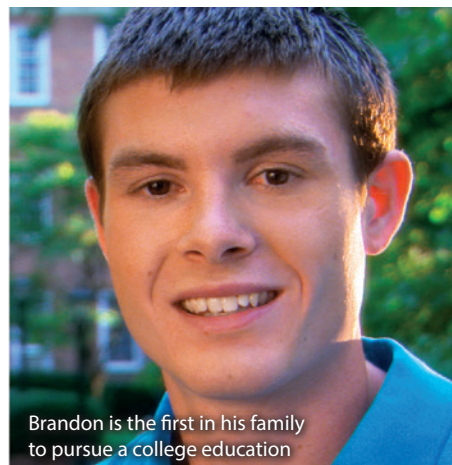
To learn more about how Ohio University is helping promising scholars such as these achieve their potential, visit www.ohio.edu/promise



Matt already won
an Emmy



Erica hopes to change
the world



Brandon is the first in his family
to pursue a college education

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Promising Futures

They're not household names — yet. But look out world, here comes the Class of 2008.

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Author finds his inspiration off the beaten path.

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Conversation, introspection carry students to new places.

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Talk About a Sales Force

Tomorrow's top sellers, trained in innovative ways. They're the students of our Sales Centre.

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Have Engine, Will Travel

It takes an adventurous Bobcat to make this trek.

Steady. It's what Sam Eliason does.

He's an active Eagle Scout. He helped write the College of Engineering's new honor code. He drummed for the Marching 110 and learned that teamwork can breed stronger leaders. And after his ROTC commitment — which he calls a minor in leadership without the credit — he'll serve as an Air Force second lieutenant, updating software to ensure aircraft survivability. "Everything you do influences the world somehow," he says.

Steady. It's what Sam Eliason does.

Read about more "Promising Futures" on pages 10–15.



DEPARTMENTS

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The sanctity of a promise

By Roderick J. McDavis



"... Schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged." This solemn commitment to education is the foundation upon which Ohio University was built in 1804. Our founders surveyed a rich forest and envisioned that something else remarkable could grow here — knowledge.

These visionary leaders understood that access to an education is the ultimate promise — to our children, to our society and to our future. In honoring this legacy, Ohio University has and will continue to help generations of students discover their potential. This historic promise has grown undergraduate and graduate programs recognized nationally for their excellence.

What more, then, defines the promise of an Ohio University education?

It is the way our faculty mentor students. Melding instruction with inspiration, Ohio University professors are brilliant cultivators of potential. One impressive measure is the growing number of students winning many of the nation's most prestigious

awards. Students engaged in this rigorous process credit multiple faculty mentors for putting such achievements within their reach.

It is research and creative activity. The pursuit of discovery yields innovation from those seeking the promise of a better future. Last year, 100 of the 470 students participating in the annual Research and Creative Activity Expo earned recognition for projects ranging from a documentary film on Ohio's controversial role in the 2004



The Class Gateway is a daily reminder of our promise.

presidential election to a new treatment for pancreatic cancer to a study on optimizing fuel cells that use alternative energy sources.

It is service. When students invest time, ideas and regard for others, they discover the best in themselves. Our medical students travel the world conducting field research and assisting in clinics to improve the quality of life for the underserved. These humbling experiences, they say, also will improve the quality of care they provide — by nurturing sensitivity, awareness and communication with patients.

It is experiential learning. Hands-on learning is a meaningful, transformative complement to the academic curriculum — whether it takes the form of providing business advice to area entrepreneurs, working in campus radio and TV stations, or performing at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

It is community. Nearly 50 percent of all first-year students joined one of the university's 115 learning communities this past fall. Those who participate say they feel more strongly connected and develop a deeper understanding of their courses, and statistics show they earn higher grade-point averages.

When I walk the College Green, I recall the young man I was and the wealth of opportunity my education has afforded me. Life-changing experiences. Faculty tutelage. Learning and discovery. Ohio University's promise was fulfilled for me; so too will it be realized by the students and colleagues who walk the brick paths with me today.

It is the singular Ohio University experience that binds together more than 180,000 graduates throughout the world. I am proud to be counted in this number; and I hope you are as well.

OHIO TODAY

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To reach the Ohio University switchboard, call 740-593-1000.

Presidential presence felt in Athens area

The 'Cat Facts in *Ohio Today* have always interested me. As an Athens native and somewhat of a history buff, I have taught, written articles and videotaped several shows for both local access and regional TV. Many were on the folklore of Athens County and Ohio University.

The fall/winter 2007 *Ohio Today's* 'Cat Facts mentioned that nine U.S. presidents have visited the Athens campus and asked, "Which two did so while in office?"

In all, 15 U.S. presidents have been to the Athens and/or campus area. (The five who visited while in office are noted below with asterisks.)

James Buchanan, 1855
William McKinley, 1891
William H. Taft, 1908
Theodore Roosevelt, 1912
Warren Harding, 1916
Calvin Coolidge, 1924*
Herbert Hoover, 1932*
Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1938*
Harry S. Truman, 1947*
Richard M. Nixon, 1952 and 1956
John F. Kennedy, 1959
Lyndon B. Johnson, 1964*
Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1965
Jimmy Carter, 1989
Bill Clinton, 2008

I have met nine presidents during my lifetime, seven here in my hometown of Athens.

Interested in how many first ladies have visited Athens? The answer is six: Grace Coolidge in 1924; Mamie Eisenhower, 1965; Pat Nixon, 1952 and 1956; Eleanor Roosevelt, 1954; Nancy Reagan, 1979; and Hillary Rodham Clinton, 1992, 1996, 1997 and 1998.

Keep up the great job on *Ohio Today*!

Raymond J. Abraham, BFA '55
Athens, Ohio



ABOVE: U.S. President William Howard Taft visited Athens in 1908. Here, Taft (left) and Charles H. Grosvenor, a state and national political leader and devoted friend of the university, sit in front of the Grosvenor house, now Konneker Alumni Center. **BELOW:** President Lyndon B. Johnson speaks from the West Portico of Templeton-Blackburn Alumni Memorial Auditorium on May 7, 1964. To read the full text of Johnson's speech that day, visit www.ohio.edu/ohiotoday.



Spunky sophomore of the '80s doesn't disappoint

As a former classmate of Corinne Colbert's, I enjoyed reading in the fall edition of *Ohio Today* that her essay, "A Marriage That's Good Enough," had been spotlighted by NPR as part of its "This I Believe" series. And I wasn't the least bit surprised.

I knew Corinne when we both were journalism majors living in Gamertsfelder Hall in the mid-1980s. She was then "Corky" Colbert, a smart, hard-working sophomore with a firecracker personality and a contagious laugh. Even then her writing had a depth and a polish that left me envious. As I read her NPR essay, I laughed and thought, "Amazing — her writing actually got better."

Thanks to *Ohio Today* for letting me know that the 20-year-old kid with a great laugh grew into a strong, accomplished woman who is achieving a good life. And as for you, Corky, even if your husband doesn't always get as excited over your accomplishments as you might like, rest assured that those of us who knew you "back in the day" couldn't be prouder.

Shari Peace, BSJ '87
Centerville, Ohio

Write to us

Ohio Today **welcomes letters from readers. We reserve the right to edit for grammar, space, clarity, style and civility. We ask that you include your Ohio University affiliation, address and a daytime telephone number in case we have questions.**

Here are some ways to share your letters with us:

- Send e-mail to ohiotoday@ohio.edu
- Address mail to:
Ohio Today
Scott Quad 173
Ohio University
Athens, Ohio 45701-2979
- Fax letters to 740-593-1887



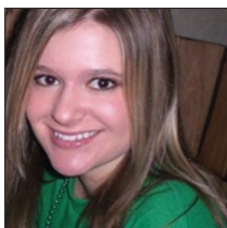
Mary Reed (“Fashion Forward”), BSJ ’90 and MA ’93, was a journalism major and a member of the Alpine Club when she attended Ohio University. Now she is the editor of getoutzine.com, an online magazine of outdoor adventure in the Ohio River region.



Charles Ping (“From One Small Seed”) was president of Ohio University for two decades (1975–1994). He continues to serve as Trustee Professor of Philosophy and Education, co-director of the Manasseh Cutler Scholars Program and member of the Charles J. Ping Institute for the Teaching of the Humanities. He and his wife, Claire, divide their time between Athens and northern Michigan, where they have a cottage on Grand Traverse Bay.



Joshua M. Bernstein (“Have Engine, Will Travel”), BSJ ’00, is a Brooklyn-based freelance journalist and critic who writes about food, drink, culture and travel for *The New York Times*, *Gourmet.com*, *Forbes Traveler*, *Time Out New York*, *New York Press* and, in a moment of weakness and monetary need, *Dolls Magazine*. He can be reached at josh.bernstein@gmail.com.



Originally from Pittsburgh, senior **Eva Simeone** (“Talk About a Sales Force”) enrolled at Ohio University to study journalism and has gained work experience in a variety of roles on campus, including as an account executive for the student-run public relations firm *imPRessions*. A traveler (she’s visited France, Spain and Italy), Eva enjoys spending time back in Pittsburgh with her 9-year-old sister, who shares her love of music and soccer.



Hannah Levy (illustrator, “Words That Transcend”) is a junior informational graphics/publication design major in the School of Visual Communication. She likes working with different elements in each illustration she creates, such as sculpture, fabric, cut paper or photography. Her ultimate career goal is to work in a full-service design firm. She is from Lakewood, Ohio.



Intrigued by art and the human spirit, **Jenaye Antonuccio** (“Promising Futures”), BA ’95, tries to capture relevance and truth in writing. She is the mother of three and a freelance writer. Twice a month in *The Athens News*, she highlights local legends in the series “Athens: Glimpses of Home.”

Campus adventures in midair

Outdoor Pursuits offers challenge course for 'Indiana Jones' wannabes



ANGELM BRADFORD

Laura Yates conquered the ropes course at The Ridges — and crossed off one more thing on her senior year “to do” list.

I'm no acrobat, but after walking the wires on Outdoor Pursuits' high challenge course, I now know I have a backup to my journalism degree. It's too bad I waited until senior year to discover this airborne obstacle course, because being suspended nearly 40 feet above the ground is an exhilarating adventure complete with bragging rights. (Indiana Jones, eat your heart out.)

I discovered the course the last weekend of winter quarter on a day spring was just beginning to show. I couldn't decide if I should be relaxed by the slowly swaying trees and brilliant blue sky or fearful of the looming web of rope and ominous rappelling tower. The program leaders didn't let me ponder for long.

With a personal goal for the day (not to rely on my harness to catch me) and a partner, I strapped myself in and tackled my first task: crossing a log suspended in midair. Unfortunately, my partner quickly met his match. Here, the program's “Challenge by Choice” philosophy came into play, and he opted to spend the rest of the afternoon perched safely on the rappelling tower. So, instead of maneuvering the course as a pair, I found myself on a solo adventure.

It seemed easy, but I soon realized a log on the ground and a log in the air are two very different things. Despite previous climbing experience and knowledge that any fall would result in a startling one-foot drop and nothing more, I clutched the ropes so hard that when I finally made it to a platform, it hurt to open my hands. But as the course got progressively harder, my confidence grew.

Soon, I was able to forget I was so far from the ground. When presented with puzzling situations, such as how to switch my weight from one rope to another without toppling over, I found it thrilling to defy gravity and make it victoriously across. Something about being outside and putting myself out on a limb (literally) was refreshing, and the afternoon left me feeling quite accomplished. And, I'm happy to say, I didn't fall once.

— Laura Yates

A history of her own

Compiled by retired university librarian Judith Daso, AB '68

The new Women's Center at Baker University Center celebrated its first birthday last month, and it seems a fitting time to celebrate other famous firsts in the lives of Ohio University women. Here is a timeline marking memorable moments and accomplishments. To see a full version of this list, visit www.herstorycelebration.org.

▼ O'Brien Bike Group



▲ Margaret Boyd

A persistent school nurse

Persistence can make the difference between success and failure. Just ask Amy Kimbler, one of the first 15 students to complete the new LPN-to-RN collaborative nursing program involving Ohio University-Southern and Collins Career Center. Kimbler had been waiting for a program with the flexibility she needed to pursue her registered nursing license but discovered it was full.

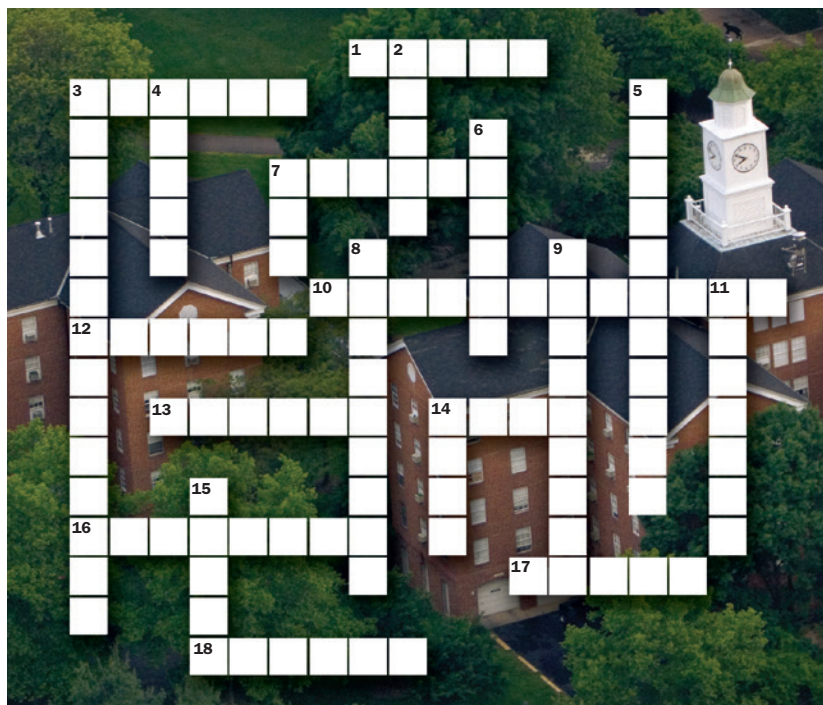
"I convinced them to let me in," she remembers.

Her persistence paid off. At November's pinning ceremony, her young daughter cheered as Kimbler was named the class' Outstanding Student Nurse. She passed the state licensing exam in January — her class earned a 93 percent pass rate, exceeding both the national and state averages by 7 percent — and in March, her new RN credentials earned her a job as a school nurse.

To make the program more accommodating, online classes replace in-person attendance requirements that conflict with LPNs' work schedules. Required clinical training is coordinated around work schedules and geographic locations, so students can continue working. But academic requirements are the same as those of the traditional associate degree nursing program.

"I would have never gone back to school if it wasn't for this program," Kimbler says. "It was worth all the hard work."

— Linda Lockhart



'Cat Facts Crossword

Still remember your residence hall? Your favorite prof? Test your campus knowledge with this puzzle. (Answers online at www.ohio.edu/ohiotoday.)

ACROSS

- 1 Music venue, esp. in 1970s
- 3 Live (or fest) here
- 7 Travel here for your Spanish language immersion
- 10 Marching 110 performance first (two words)
- 12 Scholars of note
- 13 Uptown movie goddess
- 14 Student newspaper
- 16 Avant-garde art prof
- 17 Legendary football coach Don ____
- 18 Campus dines here

DOWN

- 2 "Midnight at the ____"
- 3 One of the earliest forensic societies (two words)
- 4 Alum lives for "Today"
- 5 First fraternity, organized in 1841 (three words)
- 6 1940s news prof
- 7 These three letters spell "conference"
- 8 Head west to this regional campus
- 9 Capstone course (two words)
- 11 East Green res. hall (or U.S. pres.)
- 14 Play ____-pong at ____
- 15 Campus color

▼ Commerce class, 1899



▼ Irma Voigt



▲ Cynthia Weld

- 1868 Margaret Boyd enrolls as first female student
- 1883 Cynthia Weld becomes the first female professor
- 1913 Irma Voigt begins as Dean of Women
- 1916 Martha Jane Hunley Blackburn is the first black female graduate
- 1927 Athens branch of American Association of University Women forms
- 1941 Mary Elizabeth Lasher becomes the first female editor of The Post
- 1944 Women's Recreation Association takes its new name



Martha Jane Hunley ▲

What's changed in your time at OHIO?



At the undergraduate level, more students who are interdisciplinary in orientation and a growing number who are interested in the international dimensions to knowledge. At the graduate level ... I have encountered a number of very sophisticated international scholars who have gone on to influential careers in the U.S., Asia, Africa and Latin America. The presence of those international students enriched the curriculum.

— **Vibert Cambridge, professor, School of Media Arts and Studies, joined faculty in 1989**

When I was 32, students were willing to interact with me as a quasi-peer. Now that I look like Dad, that willingness has diminished. Today's faculty have a much higher commitment and ability to do research. They are connected into a national network of colleagues and funding sources. They are also much more willing to make a conscious effort to improve their teaching effectiveness.

— **Ken Sampson, associate dean of academics, Russ College of Engineering and Technology, joined faculty in 1987**



This year, with the Arts for Ohio initiative that allocated funds to allow students to attend performances free, there has been a remarkable surge in attendance at art events. Every time I made a curtain speech welcoming audiences to our concerts, when the Arts for Ohio initiative is mentioned, the audience bursts into spontaneous applause and cheers. This is more like the OU I first came to in the '80s.

— **Madeleine Scott, director, School of Dance, joined faculty in 1980**

Fellowship an honor for top researcher

Dark matter? For Douglas Clowe, it's not so mysterious. An assistant professor of physics and astronomy, Clowe has earned an Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Fellowship, in the amount of \$50,000, that he will use to further his work on gravitational lensing, a technique used to study massive structures such as clusters of galaxies.

His research goals include determining the nature of dark matter and dark energy and measuring the structural evolution of clusters of galaxies and related objects.

While a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Arizona at Tucson, Clowe and his colleagues found the most direct evidence yet of dark matter, the invisible substance thought to make up 80 percent of the universe. The team made headlines around the world with the finding, which *Discover* magazine ranked as the No. 3 science finding of 2006.

The competitive Sloan fellowship — which this year honored 118 researchers in seven fields — is intended to enhance the careers of the best young faculty members in the United States and Canada.

"It speaks to the outstanding quality of the faculty we've been recruiting in recent years," says department chair Joseph Shields. "Ohio University's Department of Physics and Astronomy is now in ever greater ways competitive with institutions around the nation and the world."

— *Jessica Alfrey*



For a link to a "NOVA" vodcast with Douglas Clowe, visit Ohio Today Online at www.ohio.edu/ohiotoday.

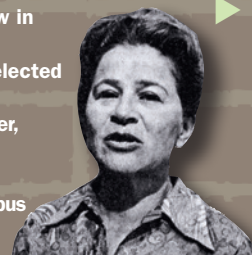
▼ WRA members in 1963



▼ Alicia Woodson



- 1962 Positions of dean of women and dean of men are dissolved
- 1967 Women are eliminated from marching band
- 1969 Dozens of women stay out past curfew in protest of women's hours
- 1969 Alicia Woodson is first black woman elected student body president
- 1971 Shirley Wimmer, School of Dance founder, receives University Professor award
- 1972 End of women's curfews
- 1972 Report on the status of women on campus is written by student Beverly Price



▲ **Protesting curfew hours**

Shirley Wimmer ▲

By the Way...

Making the news

Topic? Politics. Experts? Our students.

The primary elections brought national attention to Ohio University when “FOX & Friends” broadcast segments of two shows live from the Baker University Center theater.

On March 4 and 5, “FOX & Friends” anchor Alisyn Camerota talked politics with the OU audience gathered for the broadcast and student focus groups representing a spectrum of views. Students also had the opportunity to meet political pundits and other guests, including former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay.

FOX Network consultant Woody Fraser was impressed by the broadcasts, calling students “very articulate, very real, very eager to participate and smart as a whip.”

A bull by the horns

The stock market may seem volatile — but Ohio University’s Student Equity Management Group has sure figured out how to ride its ebbs and flows. Last fiscal year, the group totaled a 28 percent return on its investments, bringing its portfolio of Ohio University Foundation funds to \$1.5 million, up from \$1 million just two years ago.

The 20-plus members of the group each work 10 to 20 hours per week, all volunteer, analyzing financial situations and researching company stocks.



Rick Fatica

More than 1 million viewers tuned in for the live broadcast of “FOX & Friends” March 4 and 5 that brought anchor Alisyn Camerota and guests to campus.

The secret to their success? Senior finance major Matt Montesano offers some advice: “The most important rule of investing is to invest in only things that you know and understand. Too often individuals buy assets, everything from stocks to real estate, that he or she has no underlying knowledge about.”

Like other foundation assets, the group’s profits fund student scholarships and other university initiatives.

Honor for Adams

Ohio University honored its first African-American journalism graduate, the late Alvin Adams, on Oct. 19 when it dedicated the first residence hall built on campus in more than 30 years.

Born in Morgan County, Adams embarked on a distinguished career in journalism after graduating in 1959 and later worked in public relations. He moved back to the Athens area in 1998 and co-founded the Multicultural Genealogical Center in Chesterhill, Ohio, which documents the history of multicultural residents of the Ohio River Valley.

His daughter, Amelia Marie Adams, described Adams as a kind man who put others first. “He was a thoughtful person, who never discouraged people,” she said at the Adams Hall dedication ceremony.

OT For full coverage of these stories and a video recap of the “FOX & Friends” broadcast, visit www.ohio.edu/ohiotoday.

▼ First Women’s Center in McGuffey Hall



▲ Beverly Price



▲ Wendy Weeden Devine

- 1973** First Women’s Center opens in McGuffey Hall
- 1973** First athletic scholarships awarded to women at Ohio
- 1975** Women return to the marching band
- 1976** Women’s Center closes
- 1977** Women’s Advisory Committee demonstrates outside of Cutler Hall against unequal opportunities for women
- 1977** Professors Joy Huntley, Patricia Richard and Barbara Daniel propose a women’s studies program
- 1979** Athens’ first Take Back the Night March
- 1979** Wendy Weeden Devine, BSed ’74, is first woman inducted into OU Athletic Hall of Fame

Spicing up the airwaves

Dave Garcia and Julio Cumba are in the studio deejaying their usual Sunday 4 to 6 p.m. time slot. Their radio program, titled “Arroz y Frijoles” (rice and beans) has them spinning discs from just about every genre of Latin music for WOUB-AM (1340) listeners.

“We’re just having fun, playing music,” says Garcia, who also serves as the university’s director of undergraduate admissions. In reality, the show provides an outlet for entertainment and information for members — and prospective members — of the university’s Hispanic community and others who enjoy the music.

The pair mixes it up with tejano, norteño, salsa, merengue, Cuban jazz. “Even a little bit of Ricky Martin,” Garcia says.

“He played it,” Cumba responds jokingly, pointing to Garcia.

With 355 Hispanic students on campus in 2007-08 (1.7 percent of the student population), there’s tremendous room for growth.



Director of Undergraduate Admissions Dave Garcia (left) and Julio Cumba host a weekly WOUB-AM show.

“The Hispanic population is the fastest growing underrepresented group in the U.S.,” says Garcia, who is Mexican-American. “Recruiting more Hispanic students will certainly help to increase student diversity on college campuses.”

Much of the work the men do for the Office of Admissions (Cumba is an admissions adviser) takes them out of the office. “We’re road warriors,” says Cumba, who travels from September

through November to high schools and college fairs throughout northern Ohio.

A former Templeton Scholar, Cumba, who is Puerto Rican, is happy to talk to prospective students about his alma mater. He and Garcia even made a recruiting trip to Texas last year.

Wherever he goes, the name “Arroz y Frijoles” is instantly recognizable, Cumba says. “Rice and beans is something that’s cross-cultural.”

— Mary Reed

Keeping Up

John Burns, director of legal affairs, retired Jan. 1, concluding a career that spanned more than 38 years, the longest of any university lawyer in the state. He served under five university presidents. Burns plans to continue teaching during his retirement.

John Biancamano is serving as interim director of legal affairs.

• • • • •

The Division of Student Affairs welcomes a new associate vice president for student affairs and dean of students, **Ryan Lombardi**, who will begin work in May.

Lombardi was the associate dean of students at Duke University. He succeeds Terry Hogan, BS ’77, MA ’84 and PHD ’92, who left in August to accept the position of vice president for educational and student services at the University of Northern Iowa.

• • • • •

Scott Seaman joined the university as dean of university libraries effective April 1. Previously, he was associate director of administrative services for Norlin Library at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Seaman succeeds Julia Zimmerman, who left in May 2007 to accept a position as director of university libraries at Florida State University, her alma mater.

• • • • •

Rathindra Bose has been named vice president for research and creative activity and dean of the graduate college, a new college to be established this fall. He will begin work July 1.

Currently the vice president for research and dean of the graduate school at Northern Illinois University, he previously spent 16 years at Kent State University.

Bose succeeds Jack Bantle, who accepted a position at Wright State University in December.

• • • • •

Jim Schaus joined the university as director of athletics effective April 24. He previously spent nine years as Wichita State University’s athletics director.

Under his leadership, WSU emerged as one of the most competitive programs in the Missouri Valley Conference, winning the MVC’s All-Sports Trophy four years in a row.

Schaus succeeds Kirby Hocutt, who left in April to accept a position as the director of athletics at the University of Miami.

▼ Women’s Center, 2008



▲ Gladys Bailin



- 1979** Women’s studies program begins
- 1985** Graduate women’s studies certificate program is approved
- 1986** Gladys Bailin of the School of Dance is first female Distinguished Professor
- 2005** Women’s studies becomes a major
- 2006** Provost Kathy Krendl establishes Commission for Women
- 2007** Women’s Center opens in the new Baker University Center; Susanne Dietzel named director



"Kotodama refers to how much people can understand each other without words." This is one of Aki Tanaka's many talents.

She has an insatiable passion for comprehending the cultures of our world. And she expresses herself through African dance. This combination outfitted her well for an internship in Ghana, where she worked with street children. She connected with them through dance and taught them English and geography as readily as basic life skills. She came away even surer of her aspirations and poignantly wiser.

"I learned that we do not need many things to help each other; we do not need many things to educate children; and we can make a classroom anytime, anywhere."

We all can learn from Aki.

Promising futures

**By Jenaye Antonuccio
and Gina Calcamuggio**

**Photography by Kainaz Amaria,
Travis Dove and Matt Eich**

This is the time of year to celebrate a promise fulfilled — Commencement.


In marking the significance of this occasion, most often a prominent and accomplished professional is sought to address the graduating class of emerging scholars. The speaker is asked to deliver a message that conveys just the right amount of wisdom and grace to match the fullness of the moment.

Where does one turn for worthy inspiration to achieve such a task?

We found a rich assortment of dreamers and heroes, philosophers and poets, and sage scholars among Ohio University's soon-to-be graduates. Each one you'll meet — like the 4,000 others they join — is brimming with potential, poised for greatness.

Keep your eye on them. We think someday soon others will be seeking their wisdom and grace, too.

KAINAZ AMARIA

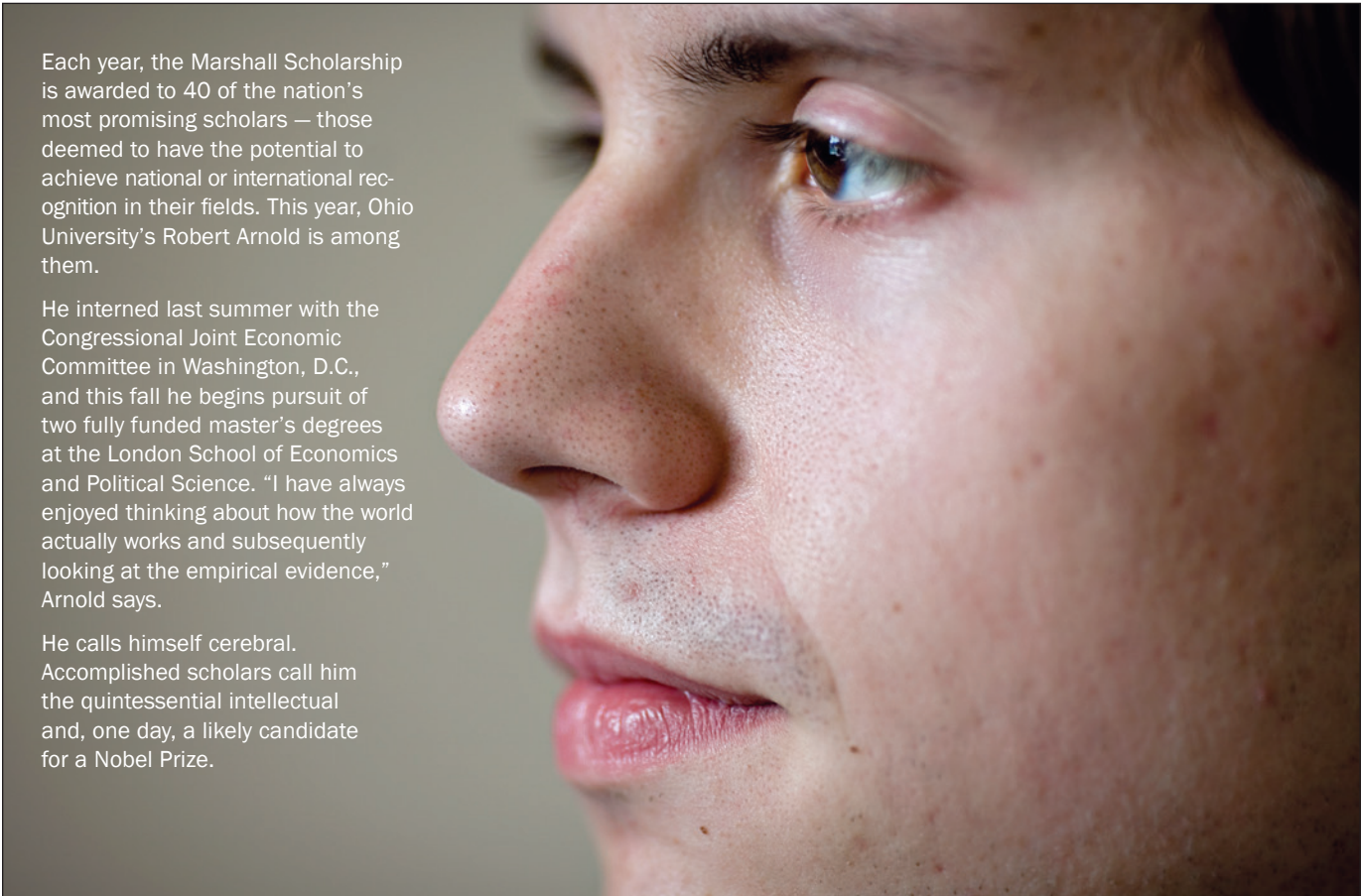


Terrez Thomas planned to study engineering. But once he began researching problems that riddle school funding, he decided to re-engineer his future to address it.

"I need to be a teacher so students have a role model," he says. "The political climate affects the classroom, and a teacher is the number one advocate."

His commitment is palpable: research and work in classrooms in South Africa and Chicago Public Schools; service at a Honduran orphanage; and teaching in Southeast Ohio through CARE — a program fostering tenets of democratic citizenship in students.

"You can never reach perfection, but I won't stop striving toward it," says this future middle-school teacher.


A close-up, profile photograph of a young man with light skin and freckles, looking towards the left. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of his skin and the shape of his nose and lips.

Each year, the Marshall Scholarship is awarded to 40 of the nation's most promising scholars — those deemed to have the potential to achieve national or international recognition in their fields. This year, Ohio University's Robert Arnold is among them.

He interned last summer with the Congressional Joint Economic Committee in Washington, D.C., and this fall he begins pursuit of two fully funded master's degrees at the London School of Economics and Political Science. "I have always enjoyed thinking about how the world actually works and subsequently looking at the empirical evidence," Arnold says.

He calls himself cerebral. Accomplished scholars call him the quintessential intellectual and, one day, a likely candidate for a Nobel Prize.

MATT EICH

A close-up portrait of a young woman with dark hair and green eyes, looking directly at the camera. She is wearing large hoop earrings. The background is dark and out of focus.

Ask Carla Saavedra Santiago about the power of a copy editor. "Words allow me to shape the world around me," she says.

Carla won a highly competitive internship grant from Scripps Howard Foundation — a rarity for a sophomore — and worked at Treasure Coast Newspapers. Next she was chosen from among thousands of students for one of 100 assignments awarded by the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, the crown jewel of copy-editing internships.

Those experiences taught Carla many things, including this: "Truth is important, especially when it has somebody else's life in its hands." Carla observed and played a role in news coverage that helped stay an execution. "One story can make or break somebody," she says.

MATT EICH



An analyst goes deep.

Some students learn Spanish. She studied in Pamplona, Spain, and earned “advanced mid level” certification from the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.

Some students get involved. She is a Copeland Scholar and a member of Business Fellows and CONNECT, both of which seek mentors and leaders.

Some students get work experience. She was part of a group that helped build a smart investment portfolio for the university. So smart that she begins work this summer as an analyst for JP Morgan’s Private Bank in New York.

Most students have one major. She has three: finance, economics and Spanish.

“Learning is immersion,” Alyson Shupe says. “There is no other way you can do it.”

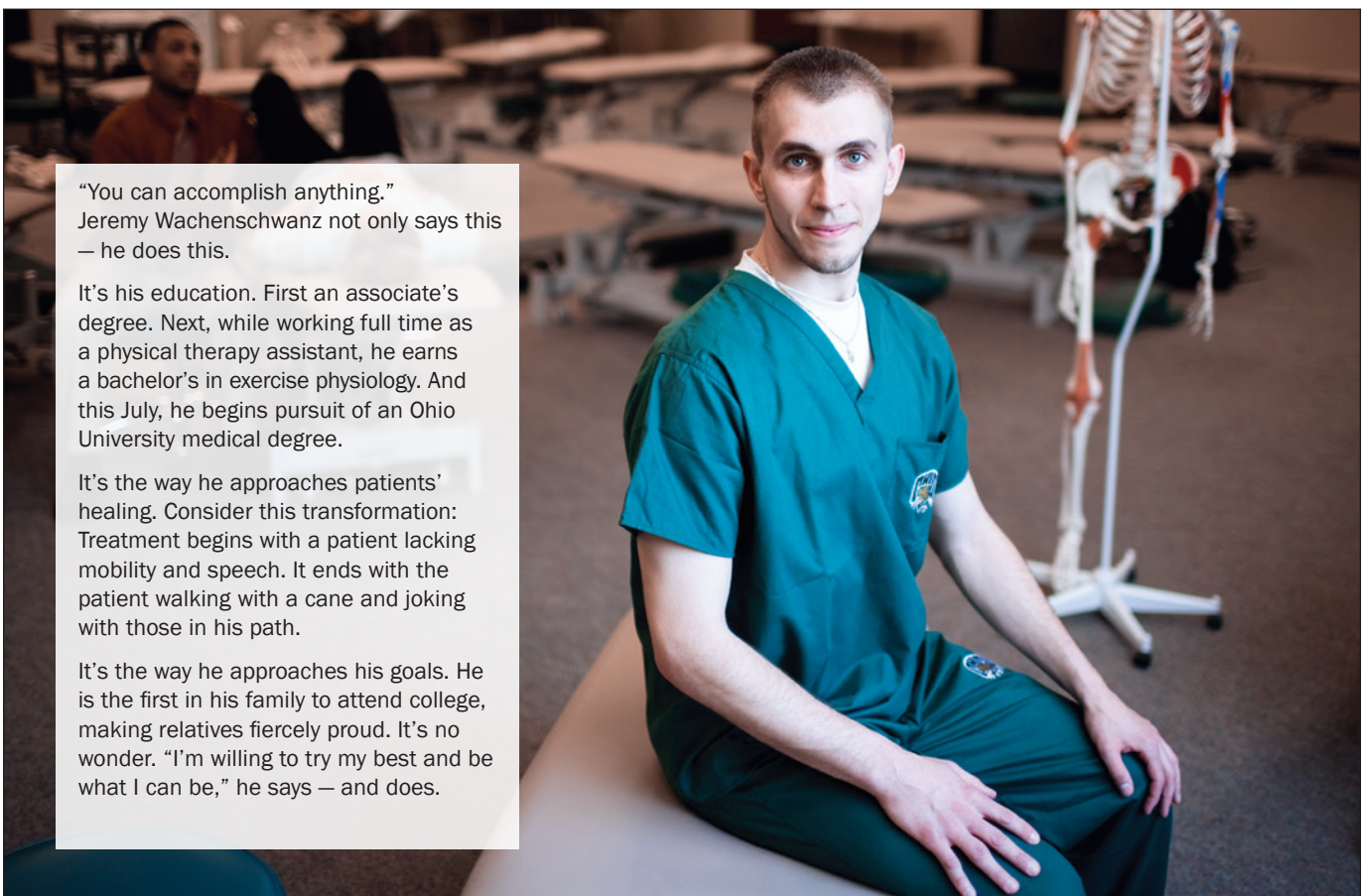


Many doctors have a moment that triggers their calling. For Amanda McConnell it was helping her grand-father recover from a viral condition that left him paralyzed for months. As a high school student, she volunteered in an emergency room.

Those early experiences kept her mind on her goal. And now, the mind is her goal. "Neurology is complex," she says. "It's a puzzle."

Research in Kenya, El Salvador and Edinburgh widened her scope, inspiring her to earn a master's degree in public health. Years after her moment of inspiration, she lives her calling. "A doctor is a servant leader," she says.

KARLA AMARIA



"You can accomplish anything." Jeremy Wachenschwanz not only says this — he does this.

It's his education. First an associate's degree. Next, while working full time as a physical therapy assistant, he earns a bachelor's in exercise physiology. And this July, he begins pursuit of an Ohio University medical degree.

It's the way he approaches patients' healing. Consider this transformation: Treatment begins with a patient lacking mobility and speech. It ends with the patient walking with a cane and joking with those in his path.

It's the way he approaches his goals. He is the first in his family to attend college, making relatives fiercely proud. It's no wonder. "I'm willing to try my best and be what I can be," he says — and does.

TRAVIS DOVE

The photographers:

From our School of Visual Communication



"In VisCom, we talk a lot about shooting to convey a feeling," says Travis Dove. "It doesn't happen with every photograph, but when it does, it's like magic." This master's degree candidate looks at old stories in new ways, often surprised at how subject and surrounding fall together in a scene. Named the 2007 College Photographer of the Year, he has been recognized by Pictures of the Year International, the White House News Photographers Association and others. His pre-Ohio University résumé included freelance assignments in North Carolina's Research Triangle Park and an internship with *The Charlotte Observer*. His future plans? "I want to be 50 years old and have the same passion for photography that I have now," he says. More immediately, Travis will shoot for *The Boston Globe* this summer and intern with *National Geographic* in the fall.



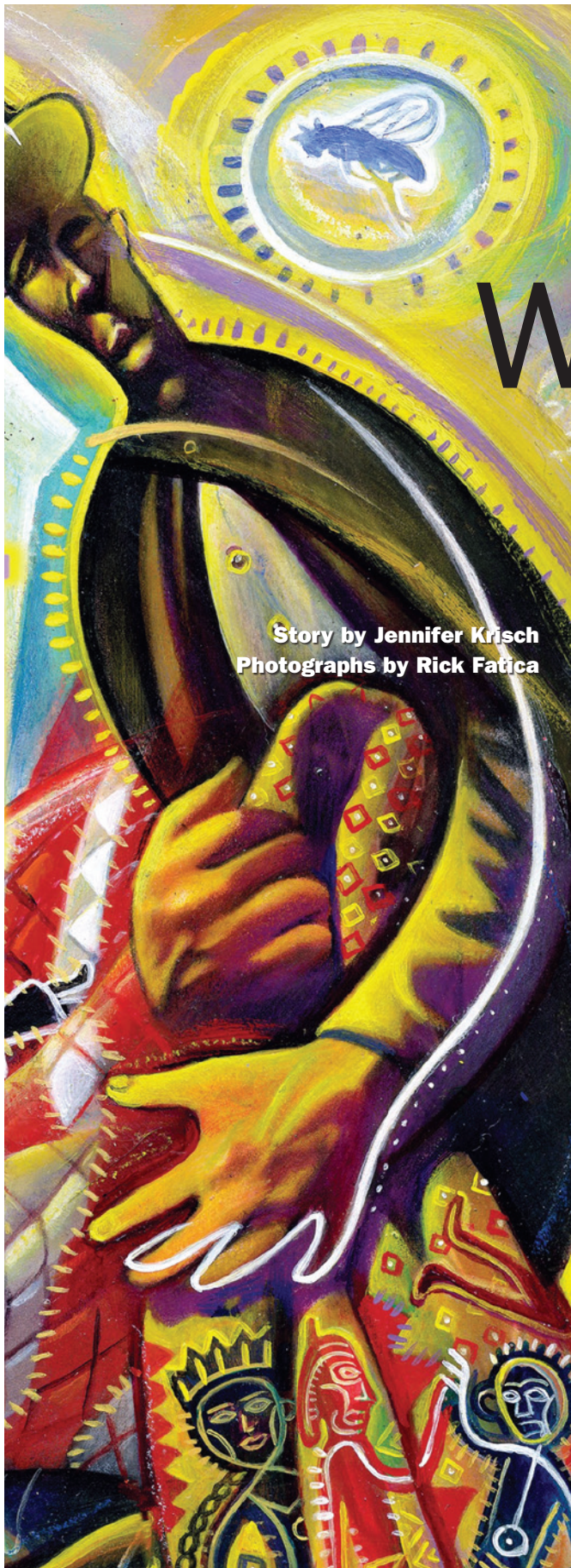
Kainaz Amaria arrived at Ohio University with an insatiable curiosity about the human condition. Still just as curious, she departs in June as a strong visual storyteller with a master's degree. A recipient of the nationally competitive Chips Quinn scholarship, Kainaz contributed her talents to the award-winning Soul of Athens Web site and earned an honorable mention in the College Photographer of the Year competition for a picture essay on coal mining in Appalachia. A teaching assistantship allowed her to grasp her calling even more fully. This summer, she joins the staff of *U.S. News and World Report* as a photo intern. "Above all else," she says, "I strive to uphold the notions of humanity, diversity and accuracy in my work."



Matt Eich strives to be a conduit for images of struggle and joy in rural communities. Open a recent issue of *Newsweek*, and you'll find his photo essay on Chauncey, Ohio. He was named College Photographer of the Year in 2006 (Ohio University students captured the award in back-to-back years) and made *American Photo* magazine's 15 Emerging Photographers of 2007 list. Among publications that have showcased his work are *The New York Times*, *Bloomberg News*, *The Sunday London Times* and *MediaStorm.org*. Bachelor's degree in hand, Matt's next assignment is a summer internship at *National Geographic*. Intrigued by hope, love and fear, the husband and father of a 7-month-old says, "There are times when I need to focus intently on my work and other times when I need to devote myself entirely to my family. My hope is that this will all balance."



Visit www.ohio.edu/ohiotoday for more on all of these students.



RUDY GUTIERREZ

Writer's paradise

Story by Jennifer Krisch
Photographs by Rick Fatica

In the Athens County village of Kilvert, Professor Zakes Mda found inspiration for his acclaimed novel 'Cion.'

Students lucky enough to land a desk in Zakes Mda's Creative Writing 361 class are assured of lessons from a master. To them, he may be simply Professor Mda, who expects full effort, genuine criticism and an unwavering desire to write. But around the world, this unassuming man with the big laugh at the front of the room is an internationally acclaimed novelist, considered by many to be the leading South African writer of his generation.

Reviewers of Mda's work use certain words again and again: stunning, exuberant, vivid, rich, essential, masterpiece. For the man himself, there is one description with which no one could argue: prolific. Mda has authored six novels in 12 years, most recently "Cion," published in September.

Yet it was the craft of playwriting that initially drew him to Ohio University.



His country still gripped by apartheid, Mda traveled to Athens in 1981 to pursue a master's degree through the professional playwriting program. First published as a teenager, Mda's career as a playwright had already been well-established in South Africa, and he continued to publish plays in his home country while living in Athens.

He did not begin writing novels until Christmas 1991, when he was tinkering on a new computer and penned the initial page of what became his first novel, "Ways of Dying." Published in 1995, the story introduces Toloki, a professional mourner paid to wail at funerals.

In "Cion," Mda revisits Toloki, whom he brings to America in search of fellow mourners. As he often does with

Taking up residence with the Quigley family in nearby Kilvert, a tight-knit community of tri-racial settlers who trace their ancestry to African slaves, Irish immigrants and Native Americans, Toloki becomes enraptured with his host family. Of particular interest to him is their slave history, told through generations of handcrafted quilts and the oral histories shared by the women who stitch them.



"I fell in love with Kilvert and the oral traditions they have there," says Mda, MFA and MA '84. "I really wanted to write about these people — how they came here, their history and how they are today."

"I took half a day off, put him in the car and drove him out

Fascinated by the culture and history of Kilvert, Mda stole away from Athens in spare moments to listen to the oral histories and find inspiration to fill the pages of his novel.

Among his new acquaintances was Irene Flowers, an active 86-year-old whose cheerful smile never falters. Flowers is the soul of the Kilvert Community Center, which she has led for decades. It's where she's stitched countless quilts, a source of the center's operating money, and where she met Mda. She appears as herself in his novel.

Mda soaked up Kilvert's stories as he huddled over a sewing machine. The women of the center would have it no other way.

“They said, ‘We will tell you, but you must learn to quilt.’ So I bought my own sewing machine, and I learned to quilt while they would tell me these oral histories of their ancestors.



Creating that common experience

Zakes Mda's use of Athens County's rich history in his latest novel, "Cion," made it the perfect choice for Ohio University's Common Reading Project.

The book will be used across the curriculum for the next two academic years in a program that gives first-year students a common academic experience meant to ease the transition to college life. It was chosen from among 150 nominated books.

"All of us felt 'Cion' was a wonderful read and a good connection to the area — not just to Athens, but to Appalachia as well," says Sherrie Gradin, director of the Center for Writing Excellence and one of 12 faculty members on the book selection committee.



Irene Flowers (left) and Barbara Suzy Parsons visit with Zakes Mda at the Kilvert Community Center, where Mda heard the oral histories around which he built "Cion."

"Quilts are part of the culture of Kilvert. If you go there today, you will find the women quilting. Some of the women have quilts from their great-great-grandmothers, and they believe the designs and symbols were used by their slave ancestors to find their way from the South across the Ohio River. It is part of the tradition of Kilvert." He pauses. "But I am a lousy quilter."



The story of "Cion" is woven through the quilts, and that is by no means an accident. Some historians argue that slave map quilts simply do not exist, that the history is fabricated and that the stories grow more grandiose with each generation's telling. There is no written historical record of the practice, they argue.

But the people of Kilvert believe it is so, record or no record.

"I use the novel to illustrate this debate," Mda says. "I use the quilts as a portal to revisit the past."

It is kinship — with university, Athens and Kilvert — that keeps Mda from returning to South Africa just yet. Following the completion of his master's degrees, Mda traveled back to South Africa, eventually obtaining his doctorate at the University of Cape Town. In 2002, he returned to Athens to accept a Department of English visiting professorship in African literature, expecting to stay just a year. But a permanent teaching position in creative writing became available, and both the department and Mda envisioned a good fit.

"My children fell in love with it here, and they loved their school," Mda said. "And I fell in love with Kilvert, so I thought I might as well stay."



For a Q&A with Zakes Mda, visit Ohio Today Online at www.ohio.edu/ohiotoday/.

Accolades for 'Cion'

The *New York Times Magazine* says Zakes Mda "may have a more central place in South Africa's literary and political spheres than any other novelist today." And with the release of his first novel set in the United States, Mda is quickly establishing himself with American critics and readers as well.

This year, "Cion" garnered nominations for an NAACP Image Award and the 2008 Commonwealth Writers' Prize for the Best Book in the Africa region.

Essence magazine chose the novel as its September 2007 Book Club selection, saying, "Zakes Mda's new novel offers a haunting look at our past and future in a story that seamlessly blends fact and fiction, keen observation and biting satire. ... (It) speaks to the struggles and contradictions of life in this country."

And *Publishers Weekly* calls the novel "exuberant, rich and original."

Other books by Mda

"Ways of Dying," 1995, M-Net Award for best novel; Olive Schreiner Prize

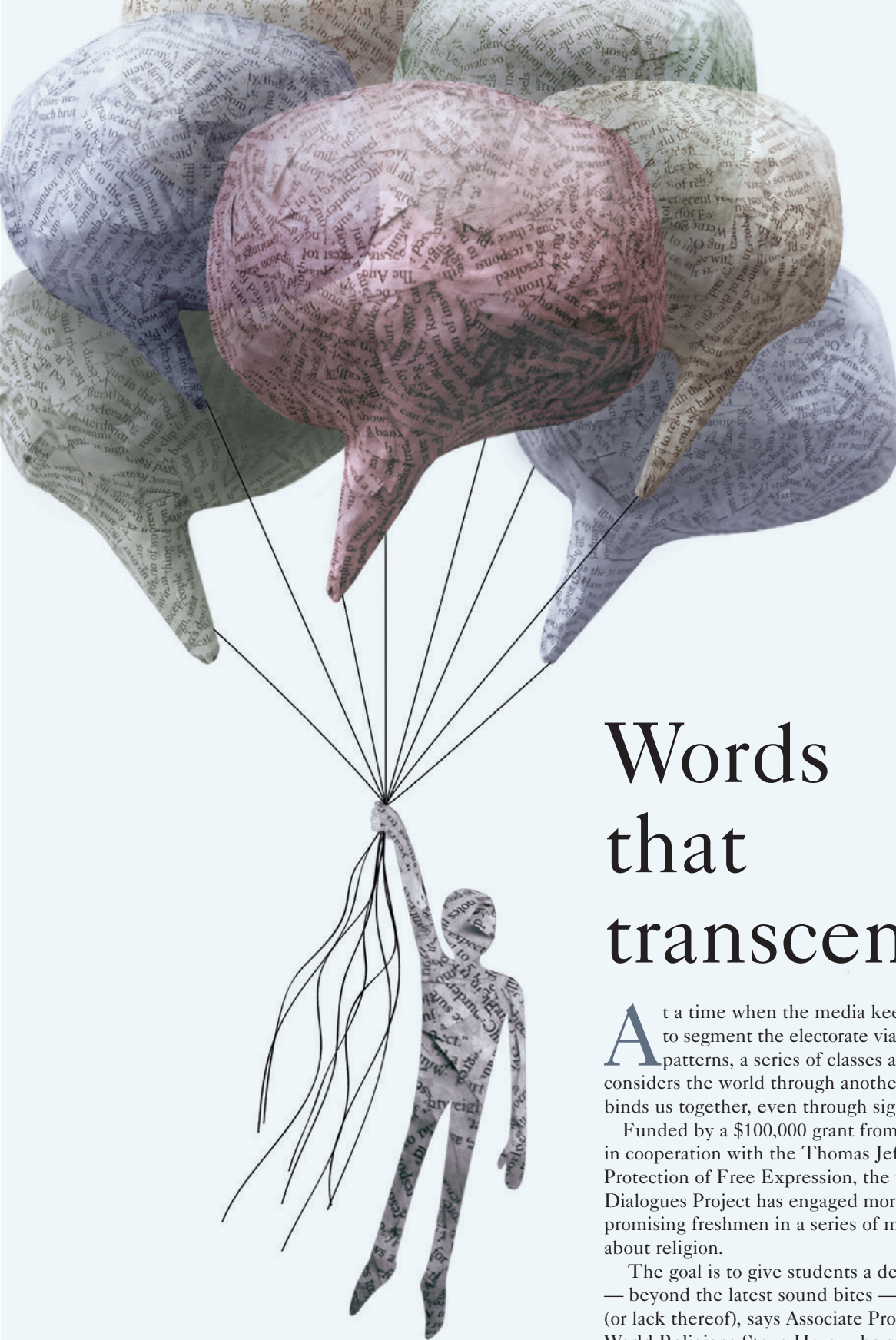
"The Heart of Redness," 2002, Hurston/Wright LEGACY Award for Fiction; *New York Times* Notable Book; Best Book, Africa Regional Commonwealth Writers' Prize; Sunday Times Fiction Award

"The Madonna of Excelsior," 2002, *New York Times* Book Review Summer Reading Selection; American Library Association Notable Book

"She Plays with the Darkness," 2004, Sanlam Literary Award for Best Unpublished Novel

"The Whale Caller," 2006, the only one of Mda's books that hasn't won an award, although he considers it his best work





Words that transcend

At a time when the media keep finding new ways to segment the electorate via faith to predict its voting patterns, a series of classes at Ohio University considers the world through another lens: What is it that binds us together, even through significant differences?

Funded by a \$100,000 grant from the Ford Foundation in cooperation with the Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression, the university's Difficult Dialogues Project has engaged more than 200 academically promising freshmen in a series of meaningful conversations about religion.

The goal is to give students a deeper understanding — beyond the latest sound bites — of one another's faiths (or lack thereof), says Associate Professor of Classics and World Religions Steve Hays, who spearheaded the project. He envisioned the courses sparking a dialogue that unites individuals across boundaries of class, politics, race, gender and faith.

Hays was joined by Elizabeth Collins, also an associate professor of classics and world religions, and Patricia Gunn, an associate professor of African American studies, in creating

Story by Alison Wayner and Mariel Betancourt
Illustration by Hannah Levy

‘Being a freshman in college is a scary thing. It’s hard to talk to people, or sometimes it’s just hard to be heard. Difficult Dialogues courses were classes where students were allowed to open up and discuss ideas, thoughts and opinions. ... We all valued someone else’s opinion even if we did not agree with it.’

— Freshman Samantha McConnell

a series of three courses based on religion: “Difficult Dialogues Concerning Religious Beliefs,” “Difficult Dialogues Concerning Gender and Sexuality” and “Race, U.S. Law and Religion.”

The classes tackle that thorny question of who we are — whether that “we” is a religious group or our nation. On any given day, a discussion might center on topics as varied as the importance of the soul, the creation of the patriarchy or the role of religion in the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Letters were mailed last spring inviting the top academic quarter of incoming freshmen to participate in Difficult Dialogues. More than 200 chose to be involved, and about 75 opted to live in Bush Hall, designated as the project’s residence hall.

“As soon as I saw the invitation, I was on board,” says freshman Randy Pasion. “Difficult Dialogues sounded like a fantastic opportunity to meet open-minded people and discuss many of the things that trouble our world.”

Hays, Collins and Gunn were careful to structure the classes in no ordinary way. For instance, Gunn turned to a team-centered approach, asking students to research, synthesize and present findings that combined their diverse views as one whole.

Fittingly, the courses all focus on conversations as learning tools. In Hays’ classes, students divide into groups of 20 for discussions every day. A faculty member works with each group as a partner in the experience.

“By the end of the course, they get to know one another, and they get to be friends,” Gunn says. “And, you learn you’re not going to always agree with your friend. They learn to disagree agreeably.”

Difficult Dialogues participants were required to take two of the three courses offered. Beyond the classroom, they kept electronic portfolios documenting their personal journeys through this project and noting if and how they changed as a result. Audrey Wallis, a first-year student, noticed she was more open to tackling tough subjects thanks to the classes.

“It gave me a great — and rare — opportunity to talk with people from a variety of backgrounds about touchy subjects that people usually avoid,” Wallis says. “I learned that these topics don’t have to be avoided if one can talk about them in a civil, proper way.”

Unlike Difficult Dialogues projects at other universities, Ohio University expanded its programming to a wider audience. A

series of open forums, held throughout winter quarter, explored different religious beliefs, including Islam, Buddhism, Christianity and atheism.

“We’re being very ambitious,” Collins says. “Through these forums, we’re learning how we can bridge town and gown and incorporate everyone into these discussions.”

Patrick Heery, a senior Honors Tutorial College student who worked closely with Difficult Dialogues, says it was the students who expressed a desire to learn more about other faiths. “The predominant interest,” Heery says, “simply was in coming to understand the inner dynamics and inner diversity of a variety of religions.”

The conversation expanded further to include prominent voices in the religious community. Bishop Carlton D. Pearson, a controversial pastor who 10 years ago was the leader of one of the largest evangelical churches in the world, came to campus at the invitation of senior philosophy major Max Korn, who conducted a one-on-one interview with Pearson for his honors thesis.

Pearson’s message of inclusion — there is no hell and God’s love is absolute — cost him his Higher Dimensions Family Church congregation and acceptance among other religious leaders.

In addition to granting Korn’s interview request, Pearson spoke publicly on campus and visited a Difficult Dialogues class for a discussion with students.


He was open about his struggles as he challenged his Pentecostal-Fundamentalist upbringing and determined what, exactly, he believes.

“I am struggling more with what I don’t know than what I do,” he told the class.

The message resonated with students — just as organizers expect the reflections and growth of this year’s participants to ripple beyond this particular point in time.

“While these students are on our campus, they will be ambassadors of goodwill because they will understand other people’s perspectives,” Gunn says. “I see great hope for the future.”

Alison Wayner, BSJ '06, is a writer and editorial assistant for University Communications and Marketing. Mariel Betancourt, MS '07, is associate editor of Ohio Today.



What do you say?

Joining a national conversation

As fall quarter was about to start, participants in the Difficult Dialogues Project heard just how special they are — and from the program's national director, no less.

The week before classes began, the Difficult Dialogues students gathered as a group for the first time to meet one another and their professors in person and engage in discussion with Robert O'Neil, national director of Difficult Dialogues and director of the Thomas Jefferson Center.

A respected scholar in American constitutional law and former president of the University of Virginia and the University of Wisconsin, O'Neil noted that Ohio University is one of only 27 schools, out of more than 700 that applied, to receive funding for the Difficult Dialogues Project.

"That gives you a sense of how extraordinary this program is," O'Neil said, emphasizing the unique opportunity it provides.

O'Neil asked group members to consider whether they were in the minority or the mainstream in comparison to their peers with respect to their beliefs, politics or socioeconomic status. "In some

or several dimensions, each of us is probably in the minority," he said.

He went on to tell a story about a party he attended years ago, in which one guest made offensive jokes at dinner. "When someone makes insensitive comments, we do not speak up, do we?" he said. "It is difficult to do. Difficult Dialogues is about making us more confident in raising those tough questions."

By the end of the day, O'Neil gave the students four assignments for the year:

- Get to know, more than casually, someone of a different religious belief, different race or different sexual orientation.
- Interact with your senior faculty, even beyond those participating in this program. It is a rare opportunity most students don't recognize — and you never know what you can learn.
- Volunteer. Even though you are busy, there is always time to devote to a good cause.
- Have fun. A college experience without fun is dull.

— Jennifer Krisch



Talk about a Sales

By Eva Simeone



Eva Simeone

Among the many out-of-classroom experiences available to the more than 240 students in The Ralph and Luci Schey Sales Centre — an academic offering open to Ohio University students of any major — is one that relies on a human resource: its alumni.

With a format similar to speed-dating, Alumni Sales Experience Day gives Sales Centre students the chance to spend eight minutes with each of several participating alumni (32 for this spring's event) to ask them about anything from salary negotiations to how best to set and achieve personal goals.

Ohio Today asked me — a sales certificate candidate — to extend the day a bit by talking to other Sales Centre insiders about what distinguishes the program, now marking its 10th year. Not surprisingly, their comments were right in sync with many of the tenets on which my professional sales education is based.

Identify the need. Set yourself apart with an indispensable product or service.

“Ohio University started one of the nation’s first undergraduate sales programs in 1997 as employers began asking for college seniors with sales skills. Approximately 50 percent of college graduates accept their first professional jobs in sales or a sales-related role, but only about 1 percent of colleges and universities actually teach sales. Today, the self-funded Sales Centre has the support of more than 40 companies that invest in the program and recruit our talented students, who by the time they graduate have earned one of the six sales certificates we offer. That credential comes with a lot of hard work, including 28 credit hours of classes and a 300-hour sales internship.”

— *Kenneth Hartung, BBA '69 and MBA '70, The Sales Centre's executive director*

Start with a vision of what you want to accomplish and follow it.

“Faculty and alumni sat down and posed the question, ‘How can Ohio University create a unique sales program unlike any other?’ That’s the origin of how we’re not a major and not a minor. It’s a cross-disciplinary certificate open to any Ohio University major, and that was a core value established at the very beginning. People go into sales from every discipline; we wanted to provide access to sales education from every discipline.”

— *Professor of Marketing Catherine Axinn, who oversees students' academic requirements*

Believe in what you do. If you don't, why should your customers?

“Sales is what I wanted to do from day one. I believe it’s an endless fight to one day hope that the business world will recognize sales as a true profession. It takes all of us working together to do that. Many people correlate sales with that used Cadillac mentality. Instead, The Sales Centre teaches a formal sales cycle

Force

Photography by Rick Fatica and Kevin Riddell

where the salesperson uses a consultative methodology (serving as an adviser to the prospective buyer) throughout the entire process.”

— *Sales Centre Alumni Society Chair Mike Cady, BS '96, who in 2006 was among the top 1 percent of Xerox's 4,000 sales representatives*

In sales, it's about demonstrating that the investment will yield the desired result. Prove your value.

“As a hiring manager for Xerox for 30 years, I would have loved to have had the opportunity to hire college seniors who basically had two years of sales training. That would save me \$150,000 to \$200,000 per employee. Here, I see engineering students sitting next to philosophy majors working on projects with business majors. That's real world. You work in diverse groups.”

— *Professional Sales Advisory Board member Tom Starr, BBA '69, CEO and founder of Miracles for Life*

Associate your product or service with a winner. “We knew that The Sales Centre had an established track record of success, and we wanted to feature outside-the-classroom experiences. I had the opportunity to visit Ohio University and meet with Kathleen Rioux and Amber Fox (two students featured in a recent PBS documentary), and the degree of professionalism we encoun-

tered proved that this was the school we wanted to highlight.”

— *Richard Wonderling, who produced “The New Selling of America” documentary for ThinkTV, the Dayton, Ohio, PBS affiliate*

Master the skills you need on the job through advanced sales training. Then anticipate, prepare and over-deliver.

“We interact with many high-level business executives while in The Sales Centre. During my internship, I felt comfortable cold-calling, securing meetings for other sales representatives and speaking in front of groups. I already had the experience in these areas because I practiced it throughout the past few years.”

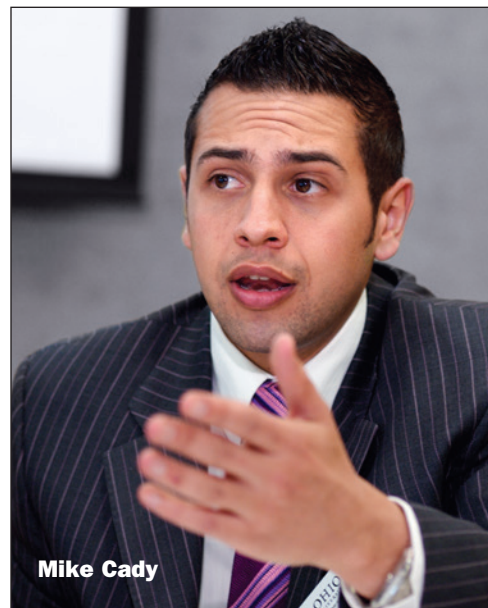
— *Senior Kathleen Rioux, who was featured in the documentary*

Remember your vision. Use it as your touchstone.

“It was really my father's dream to start and continue this academic program. He has often said the university must teach students new and innovative ideas, which The Sales Centre does. To have his name on a program of this caliber is something he's very proud of.”

— *Sales Centre proponent Larry Schey, an Ohio University Board of Trustees member*

Eva Simeone, BSJ '08, is a student writer in University Communications and Marketing who will graduate in June with a degree in journalism and a media sales certificate.



Mike Cady



POWER PLAY



**Women's sports
hit their stride at Ohio**

Photographs by Scott Gardner

The women of Ohio Athletics are racking up the accolades. Building off last year's success, which saw the Bobcats capture the department's second-ever Jacoby Trophy, awarded to the Mid-American Conference school that best exemplifies excellence in women's athletics, the Ohio women have captured MAC championships in four sports this year: cross country, field hockey, swimming and diving, and volleyball (regular season).

It was the second-straight year that cross country and field hockey collected the league's crown, while swimming and diving won its 10th league title in school history and volleyball nabbed its fifth-consecutive regular-season trophy.

More than a few outstanding individual performances have highlighted the year. Field hockey goalkeeper Jesse Martin and volleyball standout Melissa Griffin both were named MAC Player of the Year, and Griffin was tabbed an honorable mention All-American by the American Volleyball Coaches Association.

The honors have not been limited to Ohio's student-athletes. Cross country coach Clay Calkins and swimming and diving head coach Greg Werner both captured MAC Coach of the Year honors, while field hockey skipper Neil Macmillan was named West Region Coach of the Year.

— Jason Corriher



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Field hockey player Rachelle Coetzee takes command against a pair of Radford University opponents; Carime Reinhart (left) and Annie Beecham lead the pack at a cross country meet; and backstroker Leah Giancarli slices through Aquatic Center waters.

Calling all fans and friends

Are you interested in showing your support for women's sports? Ohio University's Women in Philanthropy has established a fund to support excellence and acknowledge strength and perseverance in women's athletics.

The Jody Galbreath Phillips Giving Circle is named for the first female chair of Ohio University's Board of Trustees and the largest individual donor in Ohio Athletics' history. Phillips passed away in April. (In Memoriam, Page 46.)

Contributions totaling nearly \$19,000 already have the fund well on its way toward a \$50,000 goal.

"We want to elevate the type of programs that we have and what we offer to the athletes to the level of the highest national institutions," says Stacia Taylor, BSC '82, chair of the effort.

To contribute to the Phillips Giving Circle, contact Maura Murphy, director of development for athletics, at 740-593-1119 or murphym@ohio.edu.

— Kylie Roman

Have Engine, *Will Travel*

How three guys and one car (barely) made it to Mongolia

I assumed I was too old for comfort-deprived road trips. Sure, I'd spent my Ohio University years crisscrossing North America — but I'd outgrown that. At 29, I was content to work as a desk-bound, New York magazine editor and writer. Then I stumbled across a Web site asking: What if you want a bit of unknown in a world full of health and safety measures? What you need is the Mongol Rally.

Story by Joshua M. Bernstein

Photographs by Mims H. Wright



It doesn't take long to realize the Mongol Rally is a *terrible* idea — and one I had to sign up for immediately. Every summer, about 200 fancifully named teams (Starsky and Clutch, Prancing Pandas), raise more than \$2,000 each for charities such as the global humanitarian organization Mercy Corps and Send a Cow, which provides farmers with livestock.

The do-gooders then drive from London to Mongolia's capital, Ulaanbaatar, in an eclectic convoy of barely functioning vehicles that range from broken-down taxicabs to ice cream trucks. No GPS systems. No roadside assistance. No mechanics. The reward for slogging across 8,000-plus miles of engine-eating mountain ranges, fording swollen rivers,

"You need a radiator, spark plugs and exhaust," he said, examining the Justy. "Is that all?" Mims asked. "Where are you driving?" "Mongolia." "You could also use some luck."

The rally commenced in a cacophony of honking horns, and in days we devoured France, Belgium, Germany and the Czech Republic. Poland and Lithuania disappeared in a blur of roadside kielbasa stands. In Riga, Latvia's ancient Baltic Sea capital, we welcomed our fourth Mr. Dinosaur member: a sandy-haired Brit named Jon, whom we pitied after his Jeep's engine exploded.

"Guess my welding job didn't work," he

said, climbing into our cramped jalopy as we motored toward Mother Russia. After passing a nine-hour gauntlet of snarling German shepherds and Cyrillic paperwork, we discovered our exhaust had ended its relationship with our muffler.

"No problem," said Jon. Like MacGyver, he reattached the exhaust with a plastic zip tie.

Our repaired Dino-mobile roared across spottily paved Russian roads lined with smoked-eel stands. We zipped through Moscow, with its tank-ready 12-lane roads, and aimed south past swaying sunflower fields and grazing cows.

"It looks like Ohio," Andrew said fondly, as daylight and Russia dwindled. At the Kazakhstan border, a man ferried us across a moat separating the countries,



CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT: Though the rally started with cheers at London's Hyde Park, it wasn't long before we were mired in mud, fighting losing battles with our barely functioning engines. Andrew struggles with the disintegrating exhaust system, which is held together by plastic zip ties. In the dusty wilds of Uzbekistan, fellow Mongol Rally team Bugs Meany gets its Daihatsu Hijet van stuck in the sand. **OPPOSITE PAGE FROM LEFT:** Josh, Andrew and Mims.

bribing police officers and surviving parched deserts is a measly beer.

Luckily, I like the unknown (and beer). What wilds awaited in the vastness separating Krakow and Moscow, Samarkand and Tashkent, London and Ulaanbaatar? By last March, fellow Ohio University alum Andrew Coslow and friend Mims Wright filled out my rally-team roster. We named ourselves Mr. Dinosaur ("because stupidity isn't extinct," I reasoned) and acquired visas and immunizations.

On eBay U.K., Andrew bought a white 1994 Subaru Justy for \$590 — less than my monthly rent. For good reason.

Upon arriving in London, we realized rust crept around its edges, the radiator looked mice-eaten and the engine was covered in dark, congealed oil. When we fired up the ignition, the car growled like a lawnmower and blew exhaust willy-nilly.

We took our car to a mechanic.





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Our travels were a contrast of new and old. In Kyrgyzstan, a nomadic woman sells dried cheese curds called aaruul, which taste like sour Parmesan and suck moisture from your mouth. Mobile structures called “yurts” dot the grassy countryside. The cultural divide is readily apparent in mountainous, majestic Kyrgyzstan.

depositing us in a land unlike Borat’s: Camels wandered the brown, dying countryside. Tumbleweeds blew. Paved roads dissipated into dirt tracks.

“I think,” Andrew pondered, “the rally just began.”

Fun fact: Kazakhstan maps present straight, paved roads, not the rocky, dirt courses apparently ripped apart by land mines that we inched across at 12 miles per hour. Compounding matters, our muffler finally bid adieu in a knee-deep sand drift. We camped in dust storms. Passing trucks sent up choking clouds of sand, forcing us to wear bandanas bandit-style.

Kazakhstan disappeared, dirty and

dusty, and was replaced by Uzbekistan: dirty, dusty, but with foie gras-smooth asphalt. In Moynaq, we clambered aboard rusting boats dry-docked by the receding Aral Sea, then sailed toward the Silk Road town of Samarkand, where we photographed mosques, drank sour goat milk and got pulled over for speeding.

“I gave him \$10, and he made the ticket ‘fly away,’” Mims said.

Dusty Uzbekistan relented to Kyrgyzstan’s snow-kissed mountains. Lower elevations were decorated with gurgling rivers, sturdy trees and wavy green grasses, a buffet to roaming horses, goats and sheep.

The beauty was short-lived, as we soon

re-entered Kazakhstan, replete with still more jagged roads. Exhaust fumes leaked into the car, turning the backseat into a suicide parlor. Into Russia we wobbled, then across Siberia’s breathtaking Altai Mountains, where wood-house settlements looked like old Colorado mining towns. Finally, on the trek’s 27th day, we reached the Mongolian border. We’d traveled nearly 8,000 miles, and we’d lost only our exhaust and muffler.

“I think we can make it,” Andrew said as we entered the automotive death row masquerading as Mongolia.

The “roads”—rocky, unpaved, rutted paths carved by Jeeps and off-road vehicles—stretched across the horizon in a





dozen directions. Signs were nonexistent. We hoped to drive the 1,200-odd miles to Ulaanbaatar in two days. By day two's end, our mileage numbered 180, equivalent to my Tylenol intake. Mongolian roads were washboards: Drop below 20 miles per hour and your sanity's rattled away; go faster and your car's shaken apart.

"G-g-g-g-g-g-o faster," I pleaded.

By day three, we lost our suspension and front and rear stabilizer bars. Our radiator thrashed, spurting green fluid. We subsisted on greasy dumplings called buuz, made from unrefrigerated goat carcasses, and vodka. We slept on brittle, prickly plants.

On our fifth day in Mongolia, our 32nd overall, we blew our last tire. Team Dinosaur was tired and testy. Sitting in the car made our backs ache, muscles soft as veal. Tempers flared. Silences reigned. What 8,000 miles couldn't do, Mongolia had accomplished in 500. On little more than rims and faith, we aimed for tiny Altay, 50 miles away, hoping for a miracle.

We found one: an English-speaking gentleman from Mongolia's Ministry of Finance.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: We did make some friends (although Andrew wasn't trusted to hold the baby in Kyrgyzstan). At a roadside restaurant in rural Russia, Andrew and I "read" a menu written in Cyrillic. I hang out on the edge of a cliff in Kyrgyzstan with a fellow Rally-goer, as an aquamarine lake awaits a half-mile below. Our daily travel routine was a predictable mix of four parts sleep and one part confusion.



"We need to put your car on a truck," he said, examining our sad, sagging Justy. His secretary helped us locate a driver willing to carry us, our spare tire, jerry can and tent for 300,000 Mongolian Tögrögs (about \$275). The only catch? The truck carried goat skins. (I'll spare you the details.)

"My vegetarian girlfriend will never forgive me," I said as we departed.

A few bumpy nights later, lights filled the dark horizon: Ulaanbaatar, a neon oasis filled with grey apartment buildings sticking up like bamboo. We had covered nearly 9,000 miles in just about 35 days. It was time to accept

our reward. Lots of them. Mr. Dinosaur went to the finish-line bar, located near a hulking Genghis Khan statue.

"Prizes, please," I told the long-tressed bartender, wiping road dust from my mouth.

She filled mugs of cool, amber ale, which we hoisted above our heads like shiny trophies. Then we drank our prize (and a few consolation rounds).

Joshua Bernstein, BSJ '00, is a Brooklyn-based journalist and critic who writes for The New York Times, Gourmet.com and Forbes Traveler.



Share your tale: Ohio Today welcomes news of your adventures. To propose a first-person article such as Joshua's, e-mail us at ohiotoday@ohio.edu.



RUDY GUTIERREZ

Goal: World Cup 2010

Former Bobcat coach preparing U.S. team for soccer's top prize

by Stephen McKean

When Bob Bradley took the job as head coach of the Ohio men's soccer team in 1981, he couldn't have foreseen that he would be its last. But in those days, soccer in the United States was in a state of dizzying uncertainty.

At the same time soccer was becoming the fastest-growing participation sport in the country, the newly founded professional North American Soccer League was dying. The euphoria surrounding the influx of international superstars such as Pelé and Franz Beckenbauer had waned, and the United States National Team hadn't qualified for a World Cup in more than 30 years.

To some, it might not have appeared the best time to begin a coaching career.

But American soccer fortunes have soared since then, as have those of Bob Bradley, MSA '82, now head coach of the Men's National Team.

With the grueling multi-year qualification process for the 2010 World Cup to begin this summer, the former Ohio coach will prepare his team for brutally high-stakes games against some of the world's best, in front of tens of thousands of fans and millions more watching on television.

It's a far cry from preparing his non-scholarship Bobcats for matches against Cleveland State or Ohio Wesleyan at the

ABOVE: U.S. soccer head coach Bob Bradley, MSA '82, talks to his team during a 2007 practice at Spartan Stadium in San Jose, Calif., before a friendly match against China.

old O'Brien Field, but Bradley says his time at Ohio was a fitting preparation for what has proven to be an immensely successful career.

"I was only 22 years old," says Bradley, whose squad included several international players and a handful of team members who were older than him. "It was a really unique opportunity as a young person, as a young coach, to get that experience."

Having come to Ohio from Princeton University (where he was a standout player) to pursue a master's degree in sports administration, Bradley says the coaching opportunity came about as something of an accident. He originally volunteered to help Coach Tim Murphy, MED '81, but when Murphy departed for an internship, the team needed a leader. Bradley stepped up.

It was a hectic time for Bradley, but he appreciated the chance to lead a varsity sport while pursuing a related degree. "I loved being part of the sports administration program. There were constant discussions in the classroom and out of the classroom about different issues in sports," he says. "They were great experiences."

He remembers two longtime faculty members with particular fondness: Associate Professor Andrew Kreutzer and Associate Professor Emeritus Charles Higgins, who coordinated the program at the time. Kreutzer succeeded Higgins as head of the program for 10 years; both still teach at Ohio.

When Bradley received his master's degree, he moved on to an assistant coaching position at the University of Virginia and from there took the head coaching job at Princeton in 1984. Making a leap to Major League Soccer in 1996, Bradley was named 1998 MLS Coach of the Year after leading the Chicago Fire to a title in its inaugural season.

Though the university's men's soccer program ended shortly after Bradley's departure, he describes his brief tenure as a memorable year. The team finished 7-4-2, including a 4-3 home win against Ohio State in the season finale.

Looking forward, Bradley has all of his attention focused on helping his team qualify for the 2010 World Cup, a challenging, multi-year process that begins this summer. He is optimistic about the team's chances, though, and with good reason.

The U.S. has qualified for five consecutive World Cups since 1990 (including a historic quarter-final run in 2002 in which the team stunned both Portugal and Mexico). Bradley has a crop of outstanding young talent, including his son Michael, a 20-year-old star midfielder.

"Soccer in the United States is a great story," Bradley says. "And now we're looking forward to getting started in June ... all of it with an eye to 2010 and trying to do something pretty special."

Stephen McKean, BA '98, is a writer based in Athens, Ohio.

Baby, that's style

Onesies a hit with tiny crowd

By Laura Yates

With so many young parents interested in fashion, could there be a market for trendy baby clothes as well? It's a question Leanne Ford asked herself a year after graduation, and the answer turned out to be a resounding yes.

Enter Ford's company: Punkster, a baby line with an attitude.

The company's saucy, organic onesies with phrases such as "I crawl the line" and "iPood" have wiggled their way to popularity, appearing in the pages of *Rolling Stone*, *People* and *InStyle* and adorning famous tots such as Sheryl Crow's son, Wyatt.

The brand's appeal is all about its classic wit and style, says Ford, BSS '03.

"Punkster's vibe is trying on your grandparents' clothes and then listening to old rock and country albums in Brooklyn or a barn in Ohio," she says. "Oh, and that would only be if you were 2 years old."

As a student, Ford tailored her major to fit her interests, graduating with a bachelor of specialized studies in integrated retail communication. She designed and promoted her first clothing line, Messandmod, as an independent study and landed an internship at fashion company Heatherette and a job at Quiksilver.

"There are so many things I want to do," she says. "OU gave me the chance to learn exactly what I wanted to learn."

Today, just a few years after its founding, Punkster is sold in more than 300 stores and 13 countries. The shirts also are sold online at www.niceshirtbaby.com.

Laura Yates, BSJ '08, is a student writer for Ohio Today.



Visit Ohio Today Online at www.ohio.edu/ohiotoday for an in-depth interview with Leanne Ford about building her brand.



Fashion Forward

Payless CEO talks about how — and when — to innovate

by Mary Reed

Matt Rubel, BSJ '79, has been a media darling of the footwear industry for the past year, and for good reason. Since he became CEO and president of Payless ShoeSource in 2005, he's given the company a complete makeover, from the orange-and-yellow shoe store for cheapskates to a gathering place for footwear fashionistas.

Rubel accomplished this transformation largely by re-imaging Payless, acquiring and licensing well-known brands such as American Eagle, and establishing high-profile relationships with New York fashion designers. While overseeing rising profits for Payless, Rubel also acquired two other footwear and brand licensing companies (Stride Rite and Collective Licensing International) to form Collective Brands, now the largest non-athletic footwear shoe company in the Western Hemisphere.

Along the way, *Footwear News* named Rubel Person of the Year for 2007 and *Fast Company* magazine's March issue picked Payless as one of the world's 50 most innovative companies. Rubel talked with *Ohio Today* about how to foster innovation — and when it is the appropriate approach.

A word often used to describe you is "innovative." Why is that?

What makes me innovative, I think, is a desire to continuously do better. To do better leads to innovation. It's kind of like creativity. Creativity is taking something small and making it big.

How do you foster creativity?

First of all, try to walk into an idea without parameters, in terms of just saying, "What's the thing that's going to make something better?" and do it without all the inhibitors that initially shackle ideas. Then you have to become pragmatic and add those things back in. Let people go through visioning sessions



Matt Rubel, BSJ '79

'Sometimes the most organized situations can be the most creative, where everybody has a clear understanding of what's needed. Creativity can come out of that structure.'

without those shackles. So basically, open and free thought.

Is that how the creative process typically works at Payless?

Sometimes the most organized situations can be the most creative, where everybody has a clear understanding of what's needed. Creativity can come out of that structure. We make sure the right people are there in those structured development processes. Creativity can be realized in both open and free thinking or through process. We do both in our organization.

How did your journalism education influence your approach to creativity?

I think journalism is a great example of what I call structured creativity. There is

a definite structure to journalism, but how you use that structure can enable you to be quite creative. I think at OU they fostered an understanding of that structure but promoted a platform for students to work together to be creative.

What did you learn as a student assistant in the university athletics department?

I was given a tremendous opportunity by former wrestling coach Harry Houska to direct the Mid-American Conference Wrestling Championships (and later did so for track and field). This gave me an understanding of how to pull together a team, organize it for activities, and to understand that you as a manager can't do it all; you need defined duties and a clarity of mission.

Can an organization that is not traditionally innovative change and become so?

Being creative is not in and of itself always the right thing. Some things are better stable. Innovation plays a role, but one shouldn't overuse it or underuse it.

What has worked best for Payless?

Understanding the marketplace and respecting the consumer. What we have is a great platform of 4,600 stores and the ability to bring product to customers rapidly and at great prices. And what we had to do was make sure we elevated that and bring shoppers great design and great aspiration and respect their desires and not just their needs. Our vision to democratize fashion and design in footwear became our vision for the company.

Any other advice you'd like to share?

No one moment will define you; it's constant and continuous listening, partnership and hard work that ultimately move you ahead.

Mary Reed, BSJ '90 and MA '93, is the editor of getoutzine.com.



Greening of the 'Shoe

Join in the fun this fall as the Bobcats take on the Ohio State Buckeyes in Columbus. The teams face off Sept. 6 in their first meeting since 1999, and the festivities will give Bobcat fans plenty to cheer about. For more details, turn to Page 36.

ABOVE: Ohio University faithful made up a formidable contingent when the Bobcats last took on Ohio State in Columbus.

INSIDE

Political leaders come together for a common cause: their alma mater.

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The employers of tomorrow will count on the students Rodger Griffeth is training today.

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Ready for a vacation? Take a tour with the Ohio University Alumni Association.

Page 37

Across party lines

Political leaders come together for a common cause: their alma mater

Ohio University's annual State Government Alumni Luncheon has been attracting movers and shakers for a quarter century.

Professor of Political Science Mark Weinberg, who directs the university's Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, launched the gathering in 1983 to keep the growing number of alumni working in state government in touch with their alma mater.

To mark the event's 25th anniversary in early May, *Ohio Today* posed a few questions to Weinberg.

John Haseley, AB '87, won the 2007 State Government Alumni Award.



Why did you initiate the get-together?

The purpose was to recognize the contributions Ohio University graduates were making in state government and to build a network of individuals who could facilitate internship and job opportunities for our students and recent graduates. It's done that — plus given the university valuable feedback about how we should be serving the region.

Who attends the luncheon?

The first few events drew about 25 people. For last year's event at the Statehouse Atrium, we had 155 people. We literally ran out of seats! The event draws state government leaders, both alumni and others with ties to the university, as well as faculty, students, the university president and others. Last year, Gov. Ted Strickland came to present our Outstanding State Government Alumni Award to his chief of staff, John Haseley. And, of course, our speakers come and talk about their careers in public service. We've hosted Ohio House speakers and Senate presidents — all sorts of state leaders. This year,

our speaker was Eric Fingerhut, chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents.

Tell us about the prevalence of alumni in state government.

We have an incredible number of very talented graduates who have pursued careers in public service and government, people who have been involved in the state's top policy decisions. These people could have been running huge corporations. Instead, they've focused on public service. Each year, we single out one or two to receive State Government Alumni Awards. This year, the awardees were former judge Yvette McGee Brown, BSJ '82, now president of the Center for Child and Family Advocacy at Children's Hospital in Columbus, and state Sen. John Carey, AB '81.

— Interview by Mary Alice Casey

Be an advocate

To learn more about how politics impacts higher education and Ohio University or to sign up to receive a quarterly advocacy newsletter, visit www.ouadvocates.com/.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CENTRAL OHIO

June 4 • Central Ohio Young Alumni June Bobcat Social

Lodge Bar, 165 Vine St., Columbus, 6–9 p.m. Pay as you go. \$5 parking. RSVP by May 28 to Jamie Stroh at jamie@columbusyoungalumni.com.

July 11 • Central Ohio Young Alumni July Bobcat Social

Lodge Bar, 165 Vine St., Columbus, 6–9 p.m. Pay as you go. \$5 parking. RSVP by July 4 to Jamie Stroh at jamie@columbusyoungalumni.com.

Sept. 5 • Central Ohio OHIO vs. OSU Pre-Game Jam and Pep Rally

Lodge Bar, 165 Vine St., Columbus, 6–10 p.m. \$5 includes live band Dirty Martini, drink/food specials, raffles and prizes. Wear your green and white! \$5 parking. Contact Julie Righter at 614-946-5329 or ohiocat@wideopenwest.com.

www.ouadvocates.com for more info.

NORTHEAST OHIO

June 7 • Akron Association of Ohio University Women Picnic and Installation of 2008–09 Officers

Home of Ann Cousins, 3759 Rook Drive, Portage Lakes. RSVP to Phyllis Komerofsky at 330-867-4028 or phyllis@datatechniques.biz.

June 25 • Greater Cleveland Indians vs. Giants: Alumni Night Out at Progressive Field

Pre-game mixer at Flannery's Pub, 323 E. Prospect St., Cleveland, 5 p.m. Game at Progressive Field, 2401 Ontario St., Cleveland, 7:05 p.m., \$23. RSVP by June 20 to Amy Hollis at amy.hollis@yahoo.com or 440-220-2837. Visit www.clevelandbobcats.com for more info.

June 28 • Greater Cleveland Alumni Golf Outing Hilliard Lakes Golf Course, 31666 Hilliard Blvd., Westlake, 10 a.m. \$75 includes golf and gourmet picnic. For more info and to register, visit www.clevelandbobcats.com/golfouting.

SOUTHEAST OHIO

May 30–31 • Eastern Ohio Belmont County Relay For Life

Bellaire Football Stadium, 6 p.m. Contact Katie Sonk at 740-359-1478 or ks349302@ohio.edu for more info.

June 19 • Southeast Ohio Back to OU ... in Athens! Konneker Alumni Center, 52 University Terrace, Athens, 6–8 p.m. Join the OUAA Board of Directors at this chapter kickoff! \$15 includes appetizers, BBQ dinner and dessert. Cash bar available. RSVP by June

12 at www.back2ou.com.

Sept. 26–28 • Ohio University Alumni Association Homecoming 2008 Athens. Visit www.ohio.edu/homecoming for updates.

MIDWEST U.S.

July 24 • Indiana Alumni Reception with President

McDavis NCAA Conference Center, 700 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, 5:30–7 p.m. Meet President Roderick J. McDavis, College of Education Dean Reneé Middleton and Chief Information Officer Brice Bible. \$15 includes heavy hors d'oeuvres. Cash bar available. Contact Crystal Howard at 740-593-4300 or howardc1@ohio.edu for more info.

NORTHEAST U.S.

June 27–29 • Massachusetts Serving New England 51st Monomoy Theatre Weekend

Bobcats love a challenge

One of Ohio University's most recognizable honorary alumni, President Emeritus Vernon R. Alden, has taken the lead in a campaign to raise funds to secure the future of Ohio Athletics.

The Department of Intercollegiate Athletics announced a new fundraising initiative, the Ohio Athletics Operational Endowment Campaign, in January. The initiative will help ensure the long-term financial strength of Ohio University's intercollegiate athletics program and enhance the student-athlete experience for current and future Bobcats.

Ohio Athletics already has raised \$1.4 million toward the \$2.5 million goal.

Leading the way is a challenge gift from Alden, who led the university from 1962 to 1969. Alden's \$600,000 gift — the second-largest cash donation in Ohio Athletics' history — is contingent on alumni and friends contributing \$600,000 in new gifts toward the campaign.

"While I was privileged to be at Ohio — and ever since — I have believed that we should strive for excellence in every activity of the university, in academics as well as athletics. For this reason," Alden



ABOVE: President Emeritus Vernon R. Alden and President Roderick J. McDavis

said, "I have made my contribution to the athletic endowment campaign."

The university had earlier received three generous commitments of \$250,000 each from Robert D. (BSME '67) and Margaret "Peggy" Walter (BFA '67) of Dublin, Ohio; Alan (AB '52) and Ruby Riedel (BSED '53) of Houston, Texas; and an anonymous alumni donor.

"Dr. Alden is a longtime supporter of Ohio University's academic and athletics programs. His gift and the other generous contributions made by Bobcats will continue to have a positive impact on the success of our athletics programs," said President Roderick J. McDavis.

Ohio Athletics has secured its first matching gift toward Alden's challenge — a \$50,000 contribution from Perry (BSC '80) and Sandra Sook (BSC '80, MED '82) of Southlake, Texas.

"This incredible support illustrates the Bobcat pride that alumni and friends share in this university and in its athletic teams," said Vice President for University Advancement Howard Lipman, president and CEO of The Ohio University Foundation.

— Jason Corriher

Join the team!

To make a gift in support of the Ohio Athletics Operational Endowment Campaign and help the Bobcats meet President Emeritus Vernon R. Alden's challenge, call 800-592-FUND or e-mail giving@ohio.edu. To make a secure gift online, please visit www.ohio.edu/give.

Bob and Jean Axline's house and Monomoy Theatre, Chatham, Mass., \$65 per person for weekend includes reception, dinner, "Guys and Dolls" show and Sunday breakfast. RSVP by June 13 to Jean Axline at 800-742-2273 (work) or 508-393-6347 (home).

NORTHWEST U.S.

Aug. 7 • Idaho OU Night with the Boise Hawks Memorial Stadium, 5600 Glenwood, Boise, 6:15 p.m. \$24 includes pre-game picnic, game ticket and Hawks cap. RSVP by July 24 to Julie Fanselow at 208-859-9006 or juliewrites@yahoo.com.

SOUTHEAST U.S.

June 21 • Nation's Capital OHIO Golf Scramble South Riding Golf Course, 43237 Golf View Drive, South Riding, Va., noon-7

p.m. \$110 for players, \$40 for others. Proceeds benefit Chapter Scholarship Fund. Seeking "hosts" at the event. RSVP by June 14 to Robert Walter at oubobcat33@hotmail.com or 240-354-3600.

July 11 • Raleigh/Durham Durham Bulls Game Durham Bulls Athletic Park, 409 Blackwell St., Durham, N.C., 7:05 p.m. \$12 for adult tickets; children 3 and younger free. Contact Amber Koo at 919-559-7162 or oubeach@yahoo.com for more info.

July 12 • South Carolina Third Annual OU Alumni Picnic at the RiverDogs Joseph P. Riley Jr. Park, Charleston, S.C. Picnic at 6 p.m., game (Charleston RiverDogs vs. West Virginia Power) at 7:05 p.m. \$20 includes game ticket; all-you-can-eat picnic plus an OU alumni T-shirt. Cash beer

bar. Contact Holly Fisher at holly@fishers2000.com or 843-991-1689 for more info.

SOUTHWEST US

May 31 • Dallas-Ft. Worth Frisco RoughRiders Baseball Game RoughRider Stadium, Frisco, 7-10 p.m. \$15 adult ticket; \$10 kids under 12. Free ball cap at the game. Contact Justin Ryan at 972-814-9118 or justindryan@hotmail.com for more information.

June 28 • Greater Los Angeles Sgt. Pepper's ... Revisited — A Night at the Hollywood Bowl 2301 North Highland Ave., Hollywood, 6 p.m. \$13 ticket. Contact Gretchen Douglass at 323-229-8278 or tigerlilyz@hotmail.com for more info.

SOCIETIES

May 22 • Ohio University School of Music Society of Alumni and Friends School of Music Honors Assembly Ohio University School of Music, Athens, 1-5 p.m. Three awards to be presented. Visit the events calendar at www.ohioalumni.org for more info.

May 29 • Society of Advocates Second Annual Learn to Lobby Day Columbus, 3-7 p.m. Contact Meghann McCall at irishmac19@yahoo.com.

Building a better workforce

By Kylie Roman

How many jobs have you had since graduation? The U.S. Department of Labor reports that college grads will hold more than 10 jobs by age 40. Given stats like that, it's no wonder employee turnover and retention are big concerns for today's companies.



Rodger Griffeth

Enter Rodger Griffeth.

Ohio University's first Byham Chair in Industrial/Organizational (I/O) Psychology, Griffeth joined the faculty last fall. He's lead editor of the quarterly journal *Human Resource Management Review*, and his research, which focuses on employee retention, has received national attention.

Griffeth points to low unemployment rates and weak company loyalty as leading factors in employees jumping ship for better job opportunities. Employers are desperate for remedies.

A consultant to several Fortune 500 companies and public sector organizations, including the U.S. military, Griffeth is grooming Ohio University students as experts in this in-demand field.

"This endowed chair really means a lot to me," says Griffeth, who teaches graduate courses in personnel issues such as selection, retention and recruitment. "I believe that it's really important to make students aware that these issues exist in organizations."

William C. Byham, BS '58 and MS '60, obviously agrees. His \$1 million gift to Ohio University in 2004 endowed the Byham Chair, a joint appointment in the College of Arts and Sciences' Department of Psychology and the College of Business' Department of Management Systems.

Endowed chairs allow alumni and friends to recognize exceptional faculty and help ensure top-notch classroom instruction and research.

In Byham's case, the notion of creating the endowed chair in psychology sprang from his own expertise in the field.

"There is a huge need for I/O psychologists," says Byham, co-founder, chairman and CEO of Development Dimensions International, which works with some of the world's most successful organizations to build high-performing workforces. "There are more positions available for I/O psychologists today than there are actual psychologists."

Griffeth and Byham share common goals.

"Rodger Griffeth is an excellent psychologist with a terrific track record of publishing," Byham says. "I hope that he can help OU turn out more I/O psychologists, because there is such a need for them."

Adds Griffeth: "My vision is that we can move the program forward by adding faculty and doctoral students. We would like a small, high-quality program."

Ben Ogles, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and a professor of psychology, shares that vision.

"Dr. Griffeth is a well-known and respected scholar who is already making an important contribution to Ohio University. His arrival adds immediate visibility and strength to an excellent department," Ogles says. "And Dr. Byham is extraordinarily successful. We are grateful that he maintains an interest in the continued development of future students and programs and that he is willing to be generous with his means to give back to his alma mater."

Kylie Roman, BSC '08, is the development communication assistant for University Advancement.

Become a model employee

Steps newcomers can take to become successful on the job

- Learn job requirements and the skills and knowledge needed to meet them
- Familiarize yourself with your organization's goals and values
- Establish effective and satisfying work relationships
- Determine the influential people and how office politics work
- Become knowledgeable about your organization's traditions, customs, myths and rituals

Source: "Retaining Valued Employees," Rodger W. Griffeth and Peter W. Hom

OHIO takes on OSU

A look at events slated for the OHIO vs. OSU weekend:

Friday, Sept. 5

Central Ohio Chapter Pre-game
Jam and Pep Rally
Lodge Bar, 165 Vine St.,
Columbus
6-10 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 6

Bobcat Bash
Fawcett Center, 2400 Olentangy
River Road, Columbus
Starts three hours before kickoff.
Stay and watch the Bobcats on
the big screen!

Bobcat Bashes abound!

In addition to the Bobcat Bash at Ohio State, fans can catch these bashes planned at away games this fall:

Saturday, Sept. 20

at Northwestern

Saturday, Oct. 11

at Kent State

Tuesday, Oct. 21

at Temple, 8 p.m. EST

Friday, Nov. 28

at Miami

Schedule subject to change.
Most times TBD. For complete
details and to register, visit www.bobcatbash.org.

Congratulations!

Alumni award winners to be recognized at Homecoming

Join the Ohio University Alumni Association in congratulating these recipients of 2008 alumni awards! They will be honored, along with soon-to-be-named inductees to the Athletics Hall of Fame, at the annual Alumni Awards Gala as part of Homecoming Weekend festivities.

ALUMNA OF THE YEAR

Awarded to alumni who have distinguished themselves in their field and in service to and support for the university

Betty Thomas, BFA '69

An Emmy Award-winning actress, director and executive producer of television and feature films, Betty Thomas has continued her involvement with her alma mater through the establishment of the Betty Thomas Film Endowment in the Ohio University School of Film and as a workshop presenter.

MEDAL OF MERIT

Awarded to alumni who have achieved distinction in their chosen fields

Jeremy N. Foley, MED '76

Recognized for his achievements in college sports administration and leadership

Jeanne M. Gokcen, BSBS '82, MAHS '84, and Sedat I. Gokcen, BSEE '82, MA '84

Recognized for their achievements in interactive speech solutions

Joseph K. Jachinowski, BSEE '79

Recognized for his achievements in electronic medical systems and comprehensive information technology for oncology management

Larry M. Starr, BSBD '68, MED '71

Recognized for his achievement in professional athletic training

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Awarded to alumni who have supported Ohio University and the alumni association through alumni chapters, clubs, societies or other groups

Leon M. Harris, BSC '83

Recognized for his service during the

Bicentennial Campaign and to the Scripps College of Communication Dean's Advisory Council

Shaik S. Ismail, AA '69, BSBD '70

Recognized for his service through the Malaysia Alumni Chapter and assistance in securing a \$1 million gift for the university's Razak Chair

Jeffrey A. Miller, BSCE '73

Recognized for his service through the Russ College of Engineering and Technology's advisory board and in establishing and securing funds for a Cutler Scholarship for the Russ College

R. Budd Werner, BSCOM '53

Recognized for his service to the College of Business as an Executive

in Residence, charter member of the college's advisory board and career adviser to students, and for his service to the alumni association through various committees

CHARLES J. AND CLAIRE O. PING RECENT GRADUATE AWARD

Awarded to graduates who received their first baccalaureate degree within the past 15 years, whose college experience contributed to their community leadership or success and who have provided exemplary service to or support for Ohio University

Matthew A. Rhodes, BSC '94

Recognized for his achievements as a film producer and mentor to students and for his service as a member of the College of Communication Dean's Advisory Council

HONORARY ALUMNA

Awarded to non-alumni who have provided exemplary service to Ohio University

Barbara Schoonover

Recognized for her service to the Scripps College of Communication as a presenter of student workshops and for her commitment as a member of Ohio University Women in Philanthropy



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May 25-June 2 Japan

June 3-11 Amalfi: The Divine Coast

July 11-18 Caribbean Delight for Families

Aug. 9-18 Danube River to Istanbul

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Oct. 31-Nov. 8 Cultural Capitals of Russia

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1940s

Ruth Abrams, BFA '45, teaches autobiographical miniature collage to seniors in the greater Boston area, including the University of Massachusetts. She also has finished her film documentary, "Arno Peters: Radical Map, Remarkable Man," about the Peters Equal Area World Map. It is her second film documentary. She lives in Brookline, Mass.

Paul Miller, BSJ '47, retired from his 18-year career as a tax preparer and IRS enrolled agent with H&R Block. He and his wife, Mary Ellen, are enjoying travel. They reside in North Canton, Ohio.

George Riser, BSED '49, competed in the 2007 Senior Olympics. He took first place in discus and also set a meet and national record with his first-place throw in shot put. George and his wife, **Joan Algoe Riser, AB '49**, reside in Cleveland.

1950s

Robert Arter, BSCOM '50, received the Association of the U.S. Army's General Creighton W. Abrams Medal for exceptional service. Robert is a retired lieutenant general, and his military service includes a variety of command and staff positions culminating in his assignment as commanding general of the Sixth U.S. Army, Presidio of San Francisco. He and his wife, **Lois Sayles Arter, BSED '50**, reside in Lansing, Kan.

Dominic Arcuri, BSED '52, retired as a lieutenant colonel from the U.S. Army and from his work with the government. He lives in Chehalis, Wash.

Barbara Zupko Skokan, AB '57, is an avid bowler who took first place in the women's bowling singles and mixed doubles at the Huntsman Senior World Games in Utah. She also received gold medals in the New Jersey Senior Olympics and the U.S. Senior Olympics and has been inducted into the Central Jersey and New Jersey bowling hall of fame. She resides in Perth Amboy, N.J.

John Alter, BFA '58, retired from careers in journalism and military and civilian aviation. He manages family pine tree plantations in northwest Florida.

Layne Longfellow, AB '59, hosted a bicentennial celebration in honor of his cousin Henry Wadsworth Longfellow at Longfellow's Wayside Inn. For the occasion, Layne read excerpts from his cousin's poetry. Layne also received the Distinguished Lifetime Contribution award from the Prescott College Alumni Association. He resides in Prescott, Ariz.

1960s

Cynthia Loxley Vogel, AB '60, has published "Civil War Women: They Made a Difference," which she is marketing through local bookstores and museums in Ohio. She lives in Versailles, Ohio.

Judith Lemasters Clarke, BSJ '61, published her second book, "That's All She Wrote," with Pocahontas Press in 2007. She lives in Blacksburg, Va.

Joel Mirman, BBA '63, joined the Columbus law firm Adams, Babner and Gitlitz LLC as a partner in the litigation practice group. He was included in *Best Lawyers in America* and *Ohio Super Lawyers* in 2008.

John Holden Jr., AB '65, is a partner in the business transactions section and a member of the energy practice group at the Dallas branch of Jackson Walker LLP. He was named a top lawyer by *Texas Super Lawyers*.

Ronald Fowlkes, BSED '66, retired as a Los Angeles high school teacher in 2004. He now works as a real estate broker and owns apartment buildings in Los Angeles, where he resides.

Jack Hopkins, MA '66, PHD '69, retired from a 25-year career with the Kalamazoo Community Foundation in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Jacob Killian, AB '66, is president of Ohio University's AFROTC DET 650 Alumni Association Board

of Directors. He led a Habitat for Humanity house build in Melbourne, Fla., where he and his wife, Lesley, reside.

Michael Krasny, BA '66, MA '67, published his memoir, "Off Mike," with Stanford University Press and is a radio talk show host for KQED 85.5 in San Francisco.

Paula Greten, AB '68, is a small business management consultant and writer based in Coatesville, Pa. She published a profile about Irving Berlin in *American History Magazine* in 2006.

Curtis Loveland, BBA '68, is an attorney with the Columbus office of Porter Wright Morris & Arthur LLP. He was included in *Best Lawyers in America* 2008.

Fred Whissel, BSJ '68, published his third book, "In Light of Fires and Foggy Mornings: Stories From a Small Town in the 1950s That Are Absolutely, Positively True. Sort of," through online publisher Lulu.com. He lives in Jackson, Wyo.

Rand Albrecht, AB '69, MA '73, has been recalled to active duty with the U.S. Army and will serve as a senior small arms instructor for soldiers deploying to Iraq and Afghanistan at Camp Shelby, Miss.

J. Edward Carlos, PHD '69, has retired from teaching at Sewanee: The University of the South, where he chaired the fine arts department, directed the university gallery and in July opened an art center, IONA: Art Sanctuary. He lives in Sewanee, Tenn., with his wife, Sarah.

David Keck, BSED '69, MED '71, was elected to a four-year term on the village council in Johnstown, Ohio. He is the ABLE director for Twin Valley Behavioral Healthcare in Columbus.

James Raney, AB '69, was elected to a four-year term as a member-at-large for the school board of Fairfax County, Va., which operates the 13th-largest school system in the nation.

Arthur Stellar, BSED '69, MED '70, PHD '73, is the superintendent of Taunton Public Schools in Massachusetts. He received the 2007 National Dropout Prevention Network's Crystal Star Award for

Excellence for Distinguished Service and Leadership at the 19th annual Dropout Prevention Network Conference in Louisville, Ky.

Linda Conklin Taylor, BSED '69, retired from working at the University of Cincinnati in 2005. She enjoys spending time with family and resides in Marysville, Ohio, with her husband, Edmond.

1970s

George Mooradian, BFA '70, received his second Emmy nomination for outstanding cinematography for "According to Jim" and is the director of photography for "The Bill Engvall Show." He resides in Studio City, Calif.

Alan Neubert, BSED '70, received the Executive Salesman Award from United Gilsonite Laboratories and is the sales representative in Georgia and South Carolina. He resides with two of his eight children and wife, Maria, in Cartersville, Ga.

Gary Vermillion, BFA '70, retired as a guidance counselor for Cincinnati Princeton High School after 36 years in education. He and his wife, Judi, reside in Loveland, Ohio. His son, Chris, will be a freshman at Ohio University this fall.

Kenneth Frisch, BFA '71, BSED '72, received the award of Outstanding Fundraising Professional from the Northwest Ohio Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals in 2007. He resides in Bowling Green, Ohio.

Daren Neglia Callahan, AB '72, published her book, "Yoga: An Annotated Bibliography of Works in English 1981-2005," with McFarland. She is head of cataloging at Morris Library for Southern Illinois University. Daren resides in Carbondale, Ill.

Walter Kucharski, BBA '72, received the 2007 Outstanding CPA in Government Award from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. He is the auditor of public accounts for the Commonwealth of Virginia. He and his wife, **Elizabeth Kaplan, AB '71**, reside in Richmond, Va.

Patrick McLaughlin, BGS '72, was selected to join the Ohio State Bar Foundation's 2007 Fellows Class. He practices in the law firm McLaughlin & McCaffrey LLP and lives in Gates Mills, Ohio.

Maxine Landau Drapkin, BSED '73, is the college counselor at Arleta High School in San Fernando Valley, Calif.

Andrew Meyer, AB '73, MA '73, was named by the Labor Relations Institute as one of the "Top 100 Labor Attorneys" in the United States through the Cleveland firm Littler Mendelson.

Sunny Lindner Hersh, BSJ '74, published her book, "Is it HOT in Here, or am I Just HOT?" with Fast Forward Publications. She resides in Emmaus, Pa.

Fred Siekkinen, AB '74, MS '77, is an environmental investigator with the Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Investigations, with 22 years of service. Also, he assists the Office of Attorney General Environmental Crimes Section. He and his wife, Dorothy, reside in North Huntingdon, Pa.

Laila Voss, BFA '74, was a participant in the Ohio Arts Council's Individual Creativity International Residencies Program. She featured her artwork in the Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery exhibit, *Connections II: Ohio Artist Abroad*, in Columbus. She lives in Cleveland.

Mary Grace Daguano Conneely, BSJ '75, is the principal law clerk to Judge Robert A. Sackett, a justice on the New York State Supreme Court. Mary Grace was appointed to the board of editors of the New York State Bar Journal and sits on the board of directors of the Sullivan County Bar Association. She resides in Grahamsville, N.Y.

Shelly Hahn, MA '75, published her third book, "Focus on Function: Gaining Essential Communication," with Pro-Ed Inc. She is the director of Main Line Speech Consultants in Haverford, Pa.

Margaret McGee, MA '75, published her book, "Sacred Attention: A Spiritual Practice for

Finding God in the Moment," with Skylight Paths Publishing. It was selected as the Book Club Pick of the Month in October. She received her license as a lay preacher in the Olympia Diocese of the Episcopal Church. She resides in Port Townsend, Wash.

Tim Bryce, BSC '76, published his book, "Morphing into the Real World — A Handbook for Entering the Workforce," with MBA Press. He lives in Palm Harbor, Fla.

Jean Merritt Gianfagna, BSJ '76, was among 12 businesswomen honored for her leadership skills and named a 2007 Rainmaker by *Northern Ohio Live* magazine. She is the founder and president of Gianfagna Marketing & Communications Inc. based in Cleveland.

John Justus, MED '76, is senior vice president of publishing for ISP Sports. He joined ISP in 1999 after 16 years as sports information director at Wake Forest. He resides in Winston Salem, N.C.

Matthew Schwartz, BSJ '76, is an investigative reporter for the ABC affiliate, WFTS-TV, in Tampa, Fla. He has won more than 200 awards in his 30-year career, including four local Emmys. He and his family live in Tampa.

Rebecca Fannin, BSJ '77, published her book, "Silicon Dragon, How China is Winning the Tech Race," with McGraw Hill. She is a contributor to *Worth and Inc.* magazines and is the international editor of Hong Kong's weekly *Asian Venture Capital Journal*.

Louis Panesi III, AAS '77, BGS '78, is a pilot with US Airways and has published the book "A Father's Abuse...A Doctor's Love" with Pass It On Publishing. He lives in Charlotte, N.C.

Kay Neal, MA '78, PHD '84, is a professor of communication at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

Scott Austin, BSJ '79, MBA '81, is a partner in the Toledo law firm Roetzel & Andress LPA, where he focuses in intellectual property law. He lives in Westlake, Ohio.

Greg Gulas, MSA '79, published "My Memories as a Brooklyn

Dodger," which chronicles the life of George "Shotgun" Shuba. Greg is a student activities officer for Youngstown State University and resides in Boardman, Ohio.

Jeff Rarick, BSJ '79, is serving with the U.S. Army on the Multi-National Corps staff at Iraq's Camp Victory. He is stationed in Baghdad.

John Ross, AB '79, is president of the Builders Exchange of East Central Ohio and a shareholder in the law firm Buckingham, Doolittle & Burroughs LLP, where he focuses on construction law. He and his wife, Kathleen, live in North Canton, Ohio. Their son, Stuart, is a student at Ohio University.

1980s

Jan Crossen, MSA '80, published a trilogy of "9 Lives" books through Dragonpublishing.net. The trilogy is

inspired by her adopted son, who suffers from Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders. She lives in Tucson, Ariz.

Deborah Wendell Shade, BFA '80, is one of 82 paralegals to meet the requirements of the Ohio State Bar Association's new program, earning the designation of OSBA-certified paralegal. She is a member of the litigation team at Bieser, Greer & Landis in Dayton.

Kenny Tessel, BFA '80, returned to his hometown of Cincinnati and opened KT's BBQ, which was named Best of the City for best BBQ by *Cincinnati Magazine*.

Don Bentley, BSCE '81, is an industrial safety and hygiene technical advisor and engineer for Ohio's Bureau of Workers' Compensation. His wife, **Sherry Stollar Bentley, BSED '81**, is a fourth-grade language arts, reading and social studies teacher for Pickerington Local Schools. The couple has three children and lives in Pickerington, Ohio.

Ohio University Alumni Association

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Paul Matson is a junior majoring in journalism

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David Imre, MA '81, founder of Imre Communications, a brand marketing firm, acquired MDV Communications and offers its national clients digital and Web communication solutions. David resides in Monkton, Md.

Amos Kiewe, MAIA '81, PHD '84, published "FDR's First Fireside Chat: Public Confidence and the Banking Crisis" with Texas A&M University Press. He teaches communication and rhetorical studies at Syracuse University in New York.

Patrick O'Conner, MSA '81, is the president of Minor League Baseball, the governing body for Major League Baseball's farm teams. He has worked in professional baseball for 26 years and resides in St. Petersburg, Fla., with his wife, Teri.

Molly Edwards Senter, BSC '81, is property manager for Davey Tree Expert Co. in Kent, Ohio.

Meg Benke, MED '82, PHD '86, was recognized for the Most Outstanding Achievement in Online Learning by an Individual by Sloan-C, a national consortium for distance learning providers. She is dean of the Center for Distance Learning at Empire State College of the State University of New York.

Brian Kerns, BSJ '82, was selected to join the Ohio State Bar Foundation's 2007 Fellows class in October. He is a managing attorney of State Auto Insurance Co. in Middleburg Heights, Ohio.

Sue Phillips, BS '82, joined the law firm Roetzel & Andress in Akron as part of the intellectual property and information technology practice group.

Daniel Spiegel, BS '82, MS '87, is an associate professor of computer science at Kutztown University of Pennsylvania and was granted tenure.

Tim Gase, BBA '83, MBA '92, published "The Small Business Savings Plan" with Kaplan Publishing. He is a small business owner and serves as president of Peerless Saw Co. in Groveport, Ohio.

Marc Stolarsky, BA '83, authored the book "Ohio Animal Trust." Marc is an attorney in Cleveland, where he started his own law firm.

Elizabeth Zicha, MED '83, received the William Oxley Thompson Award for Excellence in Teaching from Muskingum College, where she teaches physical and health education and is the head volleyball coach. She resides in New Concord, Ohio.

Mihir Gandhi, MBA '84, is president of Astral USA Inc. and Shrenuj USA LLC. He is also vice president of Astral Holdings Inc. He lives in Placentia, Calif.

Scott Owens, AB '84, published a 48-poem book, "The Fractured World," with Main Street Rag Publishing. Owens teaches at Catawba Valley Community College in Hickory, N.C., and has received awards for his poetry from the Academy of American Poets and the North Carolina Writers Network.

Linda Fridy, BSJ '85, is the assignment editor for *Mid-County Post*, a biweekly newspaper, and the *Valley Post*, a monthly, in Santa Cruz County, Calif. She celebrated her fifth year as a breast cancer survivor and served as the chair of her local American Cancer Society Relay for Life. She, her husband, Dave, and their two sons live in Monterey Bay.

Toni Finch Kellar, BSJ '85, is marketing and communications officer at the Wilds, a 10,000-acre conservation center near Cumberland in Southeast Ohio. She and her husband, **Steven Kellar, BSC '85**, reside at Seneca Lake in Noble County.

Michael Saltzer, BSC '85, was named by *Law & Politics* magazine as an Ohio Super Lawyer. Saltzer is a personal injury attorney for Dennis Seaman & Associates Co. LPA and resides in Solon, Ohio.

April Scopetti, BBA '85, joined GBQ Partners LLC in Columbus as director of tax and business advisory services. April founded Myers & Scopetti in 2003 and was its CEO before its staff and clients joined

GBQ in November.

David Tannenbaum, MS '85, published "An Ethiopian Album: A Photographic Journey Through Nature and Culture" with online publisher Blub.com. He lives in Hereford, Ariz.

Richard Gershon, PHD '86, received a Distinguished Teaching Award from Western Michigan University. He is co-founder of the telecommunications and information management program at WMU.

D. Mark Helmus, AB '86, is vice president for university advancement at Butler University in Indianapolis. Previously, he served as senior director of development for gift planning.

Paul Emory, MFA '87, had his work featured in the Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery exhibition "New Horizons: Rewards of Time and Place." He resides in Zanesville, Ohio.

Deborah Kapchan, MA '87, published "Traveling Spirit Masters: Moroccan Gnawa Trance and Music in the Global Marketplace" with Wesleyan University Press. She lives in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Edward Lee, BSHE '87, formed Entasis Design Inc., a design and consulting firm that focuses on corporate facility design and planning, interior design and computer-aided design instruction. He and his wife, Amy, celebrated the birth of their second daughter, Elissa Noelle Mei-Yan. They live in Appleton, Wis.

Joan Mabey Samsel, BSRS '87, MSP '90, received her bachelor of science in nursing from Cleveland State University. She works at the Cleveland Clinic in the new Heart Center. She and her husband, Mike, reside in Olmsted Falls, Ohio.

George Koncar, MS '88, retired from teaching mathematics at Maysville High School after 35 years. He and his wife, Jody, reside in South Zanesville, Ohio.

Shannan Ritchie, BBA '89, MBA '90, attained fellow status from the American College of Healthcare Executives in September. He is vice president of business development at Robinson Memorial Hospital

and resides with his family in Brecksville, Ohio.

Kelly Singleton, AB '89, is the area vice president of sales and marketing for Sunrise Senior Living. She resides in Grafton, Ohio.

1990s

Kelly Clark, BSC '90, and **Sarah Irvin, BSJ '93**, were wed in July. Sarah owns Irvin Public Relations, and Kelly is the senior marketing manager for Damon's International. The couple lives in German Village in Columbus and are chairs of the 2008 German Village Haus und Garten Tour.

Irene Kehayas, BSC '90, and George Drakopoulos were wed in December. The couple resides in North Brunswick, N.J.

Michelle Novak, BBA '90, is the owner and president of Massaggiano, The Massage Spa, based in Scottsdale, Ariz. She was appointed to the advisory board of the Women's Franchise & Distribution Forum as the only Arizona representative.

Annette DePew Vanik, BSBS '90, and her husband, Christopher, celebrated the birth of their son, Michael George, in May 2007. Annette welcomes correspondence from friends at annette_vanik@yahoo.com. The family resides in Stow, Ohio.

Anthony Adomaites, BSPE '91, teaches physical education in Parma City Schools. He and his wife, Anne, celebrated the birth of twins, Edward Amato and Dominic Walter, in 2006. The family lives in Garfield Heights, Ohio.

Jill Bryan Clark, BSJ '91, is director of marketing for Gumcher Realty Trust in Columbus and its 25 shopping centers nationwide. She and her husband, Rick, live in Powell, Ohio.

Michael Goldberg, BSS '91, is director of advertising sales at Handmark Inc. His wife, **Hope Tanhoff Goldberg, BBA '90**, is the vice president of human resources

finance for Viacom Inc. The couple has two children, Ethan, 5, and Carly, 2. The family resides in Maplewood, N.J.

Mark Hatala, MS '91, PHD '93, is a professor of psychology at Truman State University. He also is president of Hatala Geroproductions, a publisher of senior-oriented books, games and greeting cards. He resides in Greentop, Mo.

Heidi Kurtz, BSC '91, is assistant director of the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers in Washington, D.C.

Kathie Rigney Mancini, BSC '91, is president of Molina Healthcare of Ohio. She lives in New Albany, Ohio.

Michael Shearer, BSJ '91, is the managing editor of *The Advocate* and NewarkAdvocate.com. He is the online and audience development editor for the Newspaper Network of Central Ohio. He lives in Newark, Ohio, with his wife, Greta, and sons, Ryan and Kyle.

Barbra Tingley, MS '91, is a physical therapist at MetroHealth Medical Center. She is the coordinator of outpatient physical and occupational therapy. Barbra and her husband, Ryan, have three children. The family resides in Euclid, Ohio.

Mary Centala Lombard, BSJ '92, BA '92, and her husband, Jon, have two children, Andrew, 12 and Sophia, 2. She home schools her children and runs a photo-archiving consultancy from her home in Dulles, Va.

Thomas Stephens, BSSE '92, has been recalled into active duty with the U.S. Army. He is stationed at Camp Phoenix in Kabul, Afghanistan. Thomas and his wife, Carrie, have three daughters.

Jennifer Bancroft, AB '93, and her husband, Thomas, welcomed their son William Michael in July 2007. He joins his brother, Tristan Payne. The family lives in Chappaqua, N.Y.

Matt Ebersbach, BBA '93, is a vice president with Fifth Third

Bancorp. He is a treasurer for the Little Miami Youth Basketball Association and trustee for the Little Miami Youth Athletic Association. He resides in Maineville, Ohio, with his wife, Kelly, and two sons.

John Graves, AB '93, is a senior government consultant at AT&T. He and his wife, Hope, reside in Washington, D.C.

Tom Manganello, BSJ '93, and his wife, Kim, celebrated the birth of their daughter, Maura, in October. Tom is an attorney with the Enforcement Division of the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, D.C. The family lives in Fairfax, Va.

Kristin Abbott Rosan, AB '93, and her husband, **John Rosan, BBA '93**, celebrated the birth of their first child, Stephen, in February 2007. The family lives in Gahanna, Ohio.

David Skeens, BSJ '93, is copy director for Bath & Body Works in Columbus, where he is responsible for naming products and writing packaging copy.

Lisa Turner Connelly, AB '94, and her husband, John, celebrated the birth of their twin daughters, Katherine and Caroline. They join their brothers, Jack, 5, and Charles, 2. The family resides in Cincinnati.

Jennifer Frame, AB '94, is the manager of information technology audit at Ferro in Cleveland.

Jason Kent, BS '94, is the fisheries business class lead for HDR Inc. in Oregon. He and his wife, Whitney, live in Portland.

Mark Klima, AB '94, received a master's degree in public administration from Cleveland State University in December. Mark, his wife, Lisa, and their two children live in Parma, Ohio.

Brad Kostka, BSJ '94, is the vice president of Roop & Co. Public Relations and was named to *Crain's Cleveland Business* "40 Under 40 Class of 2007." He and his wife, **Lisa DeMichael Kostka, AB '94**, live in Strongsville, Ohio,

with their two children, Carson, 5, and Corinne, 3.

Nancy Lewis, MSA '94, received the PR Team Leader of the Year Award from *PR News Magazine* at a 2007 National Press Club ceremony in Washington, D.C. She is head of public relations for SAE International, based in Warrendale, Pa.

Matt North, BSS '94, produced "I'm Not Sentimental," a critically acclaimed CD by singer/songwriter Rob Kendt. Matt is featured as a drummer and percussionist on the album and also performs as part of the duo Hail the Size. He resides in Los Angeles.

Jon Petz, BSC '94, is a corporate entertainer and speaker and published his second book, "Boring Meetings Suck," with Chiswick Publishing. He is a host of the comedy gameshow "Bonk" at Planet Hollywood resort and casino in Las Vegas. He and his wife, Stacey,

celebrated the birth of their third child in 2007. The family resides in Powell, Ohio.

Eric Stewart, BSC '94, joined Williams & Jensen, based in Washington, D.C., as a principal. He is senior adviser to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. In 2006, Eric received the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit from the president of the Republic of Hungary for his contributions to fostering Hungarian-American economic relations. He resides in Arlington, Va.

Jennifer Brasington-Crowley, BSJ '95, and her husband, Scott, welcomed their daughter Alaina Juliet on June 25. She joins her sister, Lyndsay, 3. The family lives in Cincinnati.

Matthew Brunner, BMUS '95, MM '05, won the National Band Association's International Conducting Symposium and will represent the association at a symposium held at the Canford

Ohio University Alumni Association

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Summer School in Sherborne, Dorset, U.K. He and his wife, **Janice Keesey Brunner, BMUS '98**, live in Bloomington, Ind.

David Fornshell, BBA '95, is a partner in the litigation department and a member of the recruiting committee for Dinsmore & Shohl LLP. David resides in Lebanon, Ohio, with his wife, Amy.

Kole Kleeman, PHD '95, is a professor of mass communication at the University of Oklahoma, where he received the Neely Award for Outstanding Teaching Excellence.

Mary McCahon, BSJ '95, is a

senior account executive in employee communications for Dix & Eaton in Cleveland.

Christina Moser, BSC '95, is a partner with Baker Hostetler LLP. She is a member of the litigation group and practices in intellectual property matters. Christina lives in Cleveland.

Christina Richards Semple, BSJ '95, is the adviser of Commack High School's newspaper, *The Courant*. She was named High School Newspaper Adviser of the Year by the Empire State Scholastic Press Association of Syracuse University. Christina lives in

Northport, N.Y., with her husband, Jack, and daughters, Amelia and Abby.

Jody Walker, AB '95, MSHCS '99, received the Ohio Job and Family Service Agencies Outstanding Director of 2007 Award for his service as JFS director in Vinton County, Ohio.

Dan Wascovich, BSVC '95, led the design and launch of Yahoo! Kickstart as a member of Yahoo's Advance Products team in San Francisco. He accepted a position as lead design and user experience strategy for Yahoo!'s Southeast Asia branch. Dan resides in Singapore.

Chrystal Denmark Porter, BSSE '96, MSA '97, is an assistant professor of sport management with Endicott College in Beverly, Mass. Her husband, **Brian Porter, MSA '98**, works with Major League Baseball's Commissioners Office in New York City. The couple has a daughter, Maya, 2.

Gordon Perry, BSCE '96, is the director of community services for West Chester Township, Ohio. He and his wife, **Karri Roudebush Perry, AB '95, MED '97**, reside in West Chester with their two children.

Jeremi Suri, MA '96, published his book, "Henry Kissinger and the American Century," with Harvard University Press. He is a professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Christine Johnson Teter, BBA '96, and her husband, Paul, welcomed their daughter, Melia Christine, in July. She joins her brother, Jacob Michael, 2. The family resides in Westerville, Ohio.

Jennifer Coleman Threat, BSJ '96, launched *Double Dutch Magazine*, which took grand prize in the Queens Business Plan Competition. Her husband, **Kevin Threat, AB '96**, was a Vibe Urbanworld Film Festival finalist for his YouTube film, "The Family Will." They live in New York City with their daughter, Dawn.

Beth O'Brien Driehaus, AB '97, and her husband, Dan, welcomed their first child, Eleanor Kathleen,

in August 2006. Beth is a history teacher at The Seven Hills School. The family resides in Cincinnati.

Nathan Hunt, BSH '97, and **Heather Cawrse Hunt, BSC '99**, welcomed their daughter, Grace Elizabeth, in December 2006. The family lives in Sagamore Hills, Ohio.

Frank Koenig Jr., BS '97, and Melissa Devine were married in July. Frank is a pilot with Continental Airlines. The couple lives in Fairview Park, Ohio.

Joshua Lorentz, BS '97, BA '98, is a partner with Dinsmore & Shohl LLP in the intellectual property practice group and a member of the recruiting committee. He has been named an Ohio Super Lawyers Rising Star. He resides in Cincinnati.

Glenda Koncar Mihaly, BSJ '97, and her husband, David, welcomed their second son, Anthony, in March 2007. He joins Joseph, who was born in April 2004. The family lives in Westerville, Ohio.

Elan Moustakis, BBA '97, and Danielle Howell were married in September. The couple resides in Chicago.

Michael Swiger, BBA '97, has published his third legal thriller, "Lethal Ambition," with Capstone Fiction. He serves on the pastoral staff at The Gospel House Church in Walton Hills, Ohio, where he lives with his wife, Susan, and son, James.

Robert Capuozzo, BSHCS '98, MSHCS '05, earned his doctorate degree from Arizona State University and is an assistant professor of early childhood education at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Jennifer Clark DeRoss, BSC '98, and her husband, Aaron, celebrated the birth of their first child, Elle Addison, in August. The family lives in Mason, Ohio.

Michelle Olney Fong, BSJ '98, and her husband, David, welcomed their second child, Maximilian Li, in August. Michelle is niche products editor for the *Dayton Daily News* and Cox Ohio Publishing. The family

What's new?

Share your news with fellow alumni by completing this form and mailing it to *Ohio Today*, Scott Quad 173, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701-2979; sending an e-mail to ohiotoday@ohio.edu or a fax to 740-593-1887; or visiting www.ohio.edu/ohiotoday.

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Maiden

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Degree and year of graduation

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Degree and year of graduation (if an Ohio University alum)

Address

Street

City

State

ZIP

Home phone

Business phone

(Indicate which is daytime phone)

E-mail address

News you'd like to share:

resides in Troy, Ohio.

Rachael Glenn Granatir, BSJ '98, MED '06, and her husband, Rich, celebrated the birth of their first child, Coleman Thomas, in May 2007. Rachael is an educational technology consultant with eTech Ohio. The family lives in Irondale, Ohio.

Jamie Krumheuer Jarosik, BSJ '98, is Dayton WDTN's evening weather reporter. She and her husband, Ken, welcomed their first child, Claire, in November. The family resides in Dayton.

Brian Johnson, BBA '98, is an assistant manager in trust operations at WesBanco Bank Inc. in Wheeling, W.Va. He and his wife, Chastity, have a son, Andrew William.

Anna Leahy, PHD '98, published her poetry collection, "Constituents of Matter," with Kent State University Press. It won the 2006 Stan and Tom Wick Poetry Prize. She is an assistant professor of English at North Central College in Naperville, Ill.

Jay Mathia, BBA '98, and Erin Switzer were wed in September. Jay also took first place in the Mr. Pittsburgh weightlifting competition. The couple resides in Pittsburgh.

Douglas McCrea, BS '98, is associate director of information technology at Rutgers University, managing IT services for the divisions of Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs.

Frank McFadden, BS '98, is an environmental consultant and musician. His songs have received airplay on New Jersey and Pennsylvania radio stations. He and his wife, Laura, live in Beach Haven, N.J.

Jennifer Galbraith Miller, BS '98, MPT '01, is a physical therapist with the University of Toledo's athletic programs. She and her husband, **John Miller, BSME '99, MS '01**, live in Elmore, Ohio.

Matthew Mingus, BBA '98, and his wife, Terrell, welcomed their daughter, Larkin Nicole, who joins her sister, Victoria Marie. The family

lives in Athens.

Ron Minto, BSC '98, is a member of the 2009 graduation cohort of the executive MBA program in the Fisher College of Business at Ohio State University. He is a systems engineering manager at Cisco Systems and resides with his wife, **Sarah Kilburn Minto, BSED '99**, and two daughters in Powell, Ohio.

Jennifer Polutnik Schlater, BBA '98, and her husband, **Ben Schlater, BBA '98**, celebrated the birth of their second son, Owen Michael, in October. He joins his brother, Caleb. The family lives in Copley, Ohio.

Marion Campbell, BFA '99, is a talent agent for TalentWorks Talent Agency in Los Angeles.

Carmen Allen Cordisco, BSC '99, is the director of admissions for Rasmussen College. She and her husband, Todd, live in Ft. Myers, Fla.

Aaron Franz, BBA '99, and his wife, Amanda, celebrated the birth of their first child, Emily Mary, in December. The family resides in Munich, Germany.

Shannon Glass, BSC '99, is an officer with Fifth Third Bancorp. She received her master's certification in project management from Villanova University and resides in Cincinnati.

Christina Novotny, BBA '99, earned her law degree magna cum laude from the University of Notre Dame, where she served as the executive articles editor of the *Journal of Legislation*.

Abigail Otting, BSJ '99, joined Libby Perszyk Kathman, an international design agency, as quality assurance coordinator. She resides in Clifton, Ohio.

Christian Pedersen, BSC '99, and his wife, Julia, welcomed their first child, Bianca Isabelle, in November. They live in Chicago.

2000s

Dana Adams Dee, BSC '00, and her husband, **David Dee, BSC**

'99, BBA '99, welcomed their first child, Kaitlyn, on Sept. 26. The family resides in Westerville, Ohio.

Angela Wolford Faulhaber, BSED '00, and her husband, Greg, welcomed twins, Emma and Jacob, on April 4, 2007. The family resides in Cincinnati.

Alexis Filoromo Geissler, BSC '00, and her husband, Brett, welcomed their first child, Owen Lawrence, in November. The family resides in Chicago.

Jason Golden, BSSPS '00, MSA '02, is senior account executive for ISP Sports at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas.

Heather Hughes, BSVC '00, and **Rob Ostermaier, BSVC '00**, who met at *The Post*, were married in 2006. They reside in Newport News, Va.

Jessica Koncar Lippoli, BSJ '00, and her husband, Jason, welcomed their daughter Maria in February 2007. She joins their son, Matthew, who was born in 2004. They live in Columbus.

Wendolyn Higgins Ross, BSSPS '00, and her husband, James, celebrated the birth of their first child, Jameson Wendell, in September. The family lives in Cedar Hill, Texas.

Suzanne Billet, BSJ '01, is a partner with Quinn & Co. Public Relations in New York City. She leads the company's global real estate practice.

Adam Cathcart, MM '01, MA '03, is an assistant professor of history at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Wash., where he teaches East Asian history. He has published articles in *Korean Studies*, *North Korean Review* and *International Journal of Comic Art*. His wife, **Qing Yang Cathcart, MM '02**, is a studio musician in Seattle.

Danielle Ford, BSC '01, completed her master of business administration at Capital University. She is development director at the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and lives in Dublin, Ohio.

Sheila McCombs Fox, BSC '01,

launched Event In Site LLC, a meeting and event management company. She resides in Worthington, Ohio.

Lori Sulewski Grahn, BSJ '01, and her husband, **Michael Grahn, BSED '00**, welcomed their first child, Cara Michelle, in August. They reside in Okinawa, Japan.

Sarah McNamara, BSC '01, and **Chris Zweidinger, BSC '00**, were married in September. They reside in Chicago.

Michelle Myers, BBA '01, wed Dan Gehrmann on Sept. 22 at Chagrin Falls, Ohio. The wedding party included **Kelly Cecil Russell, BSHC '00; Jocelyn Steel McCullough, BS '00;** and **Sarah Kellar Miller, BSJ '00**. Michelle is a Web manager at Progressive. The couple resides in Highland Heights, Ohio.

Jacob Podber, PHD '01, published "The Electronic Front Porch: An Oral History of the Arrival of Modern Media in Rural Appalachia and the Melungeon Community" through Mercer University Press. He is assistant professor in the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts at Southern Illinois University.

Paulette Wendt, BS '01, MSRSS '02, wed Michael Jackson in August. Paulette graduated from Santa Ana College with an associate degree in nursing in June and is a clinical nurse in the cardiac and renal/medical telemetry unit at St. Joseph Hospital in Orange, Calif. The couple resides in Huntington Beach, Calif.

Amber Beach, BSSPS '02, and **Jonathan Koo, BS '02**, were married July 7. The wedding party included **Natalie Bensman, BSS '02**, and **Kyle Hildebrandt, BA '02**. The couple resides in Raleigh.

Joe DeGiorgio, BA '02, passed the bar exam in July and was admitted to practice law in Ohio. He resides in Columbus.

Anne Denton, BA '02, MA '04, is director of sales and marketing for Red Cedar Coffee Co. She lives in Westlake, Ohio.

Denise deSilva, BBA '02, wed

Jansen Litter in December. She is a regional steel buyer for Worthington Industries. The couple resides in West Chester, Ohio.

Andrew Dodson, BSC '02, took top prize at the Heinz Ketchup: Top This TV Challenge. His winning commercial aired during the Emmys in September. Andrew runs his video production company, Piscotti Productions, from Wheelersburg, Ohio.

Jay Familant, PHD '02, is the campus college chair for the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Phoenix Northern Virginia campus.

Jill Sennett Holbrook, BBA '02, is a manager for GBQ Partners LLC and a member of the Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants. She resides in Groveport, Ohio.

Jenesse Nelson, BSC '02, and **Nicholas Lederer, BSCS '03**, were married in September in Charleston, S.C. They reside in Hilliard, Ohio.

Tera Hutchinson, BSH '02, and **Brian Pepper, BSIS '00, MS '02**, were married in 2005. Tera is a health education specialist. Brian is a systems engineer. They live in Macomb, Mich.

Kelly Warniment, BSVC '02, is a media designer in the Web and interactive department of Mills James in Columbus.

Jamie Ciavarra, BSJ '03, wed **Tony Gacek, BSJ '02**, on June 30. The wedding party included **Megan Czerniejewski, BSJ '03**; **Megan Rose, BSJ '03**; **Kari Chiki Dew, BSH '04**; and **Scott Thompson, BSC '02**. Jamie is an assistant editor for magazines at George Washington University, and Tony is a project manager for Ryan Homes. The couple lives in Gaithersburg, Md.

Eric Cole, BSIT '03, is an associate responsible for computer-aided design for mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineering with BSA LifeStructures in Indianapolis.

Peter Kowalke, BSJ '03, is managing editor of *Cheers Magazine*, which covers the alcohol beverage

industry for restaurants and hotels. He lives in Port Chester, N.Y.

Caroline Manley, BA '03, is a communications coordinator at Ennis Knupp and Associates based in Chicago.

Jessica Moskwa, BSJ '03, MBA '04, is the executive director of the nonprofit Allied Arts of Yakima Valley in Washington.

Marisa Saber, BA '03, passed the Illinois Bar Exam and has been sworn in to the Illinois Bar. She is an associate with Cozen O'Connor in the subrogation and recovery department in Chicago.

Katie Hurtuk Watts, BSJ '03, joined the tenant representation services group at the Cleveland office of CB Richard Ellis.

Renee Casteel Cook, BBA '04, and **Jim Cook, BA '04**, were married in June at St. Alphonsus Church in Chicago, where the couple resides.

Sara Dobie, BA '04, is president and owner of Tree Town Productions LLC, a publicity firm for Midwestern authors and artists. She lives in Perrysburg, Ohio.

Renee Aschbrenner Evenson, BSS '04, released her fourth book, "Award Winning Customer Service," through AMACOM Books, a division of the American Management Association. She lives in St. Simons Island, Ga.

Claire Moore, BSRS '04, wed Greg Fleming in June. She is the program assistant for the Wilderness Medicine Institute of the National Outdoor Leadership School. The couple resides in Lander, Wyo.

Pat O'Brien, BSS '04, MA '06, married Denise Shutte on Aug. 11. They welcomed their son, Pat, in November. They reside in Beavercreek, Ohio.

James Keith Stanley, BA '04, received his juris doctorate from the University of Akron School of Law in May 2007.

Kristen Hahn, BSHC '05, is an assistant banquet manager for the Marriott in Mt. Laurel, N.J.

Ann Reilly, BSC '05, wed Cliffton Harstine on June 2. They live in Wickliffe, Ohio.

Kristen Jensen, BSS '05, earned her master of public administration from George Washington University and has returned to her hometown of Powell, Ohio, to work for the Ohio Department of Agriculture's Office of Farmland Preservation.

M. Abigail Keating, BSC '05, is a marketing/communications specialist at Roetzel & Andress in Akron.

Christine Metti, BSED '05, BA '05, and **Joshua Blanton, BS '04**, were married in June. The wedding party included **Allison Metti Barry, BS '02**; **Ethan Blanton, BS '02**; **Jason Kaufman, BSEE '02, MSEE '05**; **Ashley Goodhart Brown, BS '04**; and **Ry Ely, BS '04**. The couple resides in Cincinnati.

Carrie Short, BBA '05, and **Stephen Stanley, BS '02**, were married in August. The wedding party included **Jon Friend, BSC '02**; **Dustin Frazier, BBA '01**; **Matt Temple, BBA '03**; **Amanda Smith, BBA '05**; **Jessica Waites, BSED '05**; **Amanda Buop, BA '05**; and **Melissa Duhn, BSHSL '05**. The couple resides in Washington, D.C.

Kassandra Graham, BS '06, is in the first year of her studies at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine in Lewisburg, W.Va.

Jessica Jensen, BSJ '06, is a marketing coordinator at Profound Communications Inc. She lives in Marysville, Ohio.

Andrea Johnson, BSS '06, and **Andrew Prouty, BSED '07**, wed in August. Andrea is an administrative fiscal manager with Ohio State University, and Andrew is self-employed. They reside in Norwich, Ohio.

Audrey Lonsinger, BCJ '06, and her husband, Darrell, welcomed their first child, Alaina Marie, in March. The family resides in Coshocton, Ohio.

Kristen Mueller, BSC '06, is an account executive with Wordsworth Communications based in

Cincinnati.

Kevin Chamberlin, BSS '07, appeared on the NBC show "Clash of the Choirs" as a member of Nick Lachey's Cincinnati-based choir, which won the competition.

Melissa Evans, BSJ '07, BA '07, is an account coordinator for Liggett Stashower advertising and public relations agency in Cleveland.

Jon Peters, BSJ '07, has been named the first student editor of the *The National Jurist*, a magazine for law students. Jon is a Phi Kappa Phi Fellow and Leadership Scholar at the Moritz College of Law at Ohio State University.

Lauren Sorrows, BSJ '07, BA '07, is an assistant account executive with Wordsworth Communications in Cincinnati.

Adam Frowine, BBA '08, BSC '08, is an account coordinator for Liggett Stashower advertising and public relations agency based in Cleveland.

Sarah Ryan, BA '09, compiled Bobcat Tracks. She is a student writer for Ohio Today.

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1920s

Cornelia Harpster Palmer, BSED '26

1930s

Agnes Eisen, BSED '31
John Haralambie, BSED '31
Lucille Keating Grubbs, ELED '32, BSED '53
Esther Kimball Thatcher, BSED '32
Dorothy Moser Brune, BSED '33
Ruth Eberle Huddy, BSED, '33
Doris Whitney Dalton, BSED '34
Damon Kearns, BSCE '34
Julia White Starlin, ELED '34, BSED '35
Leonard Montag, AB '35
Geneva Elliott Schuler, ELED '35
Eleanor Elliott Shearman, AB '35
Beulah Allison Watson, COED '35
Helen Culp Kildow, ELED '36, BSED '55
Lorene Rodehaver McDermott, AB '36
Helen Roderick Rapp, ABC '36
Margaret Dwyer Wenciewicz, BSED '36, MED '45
Mildred Leach Burk, BSED '37
Geraldine Morgan Jeffrey, ELED '37, BSED '42
Ralph Handley, BSCOM '38
Irving Miller, AB '38
Dorothy Barker Mintz, BSED '38

Harry Bennett, BSED '39, MA '46
Edward Dunn, BA '39
Charles Frasier Jr., BSED '39
Virginia Metier, KP '39, BSED '48
Gerald McDaniel, BFA '39
Jane Burnside Pike, BSED '39
Annalu Wright Schirm, AB '39
Paul Springer, BSEE '39

1940s

Sarah Seltzer Frisch, BSED '40
Donald House, BSED '40, MED '50
Doran Sauers, BSEE '40
Charles Curry, BSED '41
John Heintz, BSCOM '41
Richard Lawrence, BSAE '41
Lawrence Robone, AB '41
Elizabeth Greenlees Stockwell, BSED '41
Arnold Warger, BSED '41
Marian Hooper Baum, AB '42
Thomas Colamonic, BS '42
Jane Barchfeld Hartman, MS '42
Joan Huck Hodgdon, AB '42
Peter Lulich Sr., BSCOM, '42
Robert Morgan, BSED '42
Esther Givertz Wish, BSED '42
Alfred Angeloni, BSIE '43
Sara Gilbert Lockhart, BSED '43
Lois Lane Showmaker, BSED '43
Frances Tolson Swartzel, BSHEC '43
Eileen Buchanan Wolff, BSED '43
Mary Leonard Burrus, BS '44

Jane Rothgeb Leasure, BSED '44
Edgar Galyon Jr., BSEE '45
Margaret Szabo Lempke, BSHEC '46
Lois Tompkins Meier, BSED '46
Elizabeth McCaskill Smith, BSED '46
Ernest Young, AB '46
John Crossen, BSCOM '47
Jack Garner, BSCOM '47
Richard Kirby, AB '47
Donald Staker, BS '47, MS '48
Michael Zorich, BSED '47
William Andrews, BSCE '48
Samuel Bonham, BSED '48, MA '49
Olive Glazier Eddy, BFA '48
Helen Dickinson Elliott, BSHEC '48
Mary Calkins Graham, BARCH '48
Hollis Haughey, BSCOM '48
Virginia Hodge Kier, BSED '48
Virginia Metier, BSED '48
William Saunders, AB '48
Roy Wible, BSCOM '48
Harold Zimmerman, BSCOM '48
Clair Berry, BSCOM '49
William Blackie Jr., BSCOM '49
Russell Blowers, BSCOM '49
Patricia Stern Brown, BSCOM '49
John Cotton, AB '49
Thomas Edwards, BSIE '49
Richard Fenn, BSAE '49
Robert Killian, BSCOM '49
Nicholas Kolopos, BFA '49
Joseph Krislov, BSED '49
Mary McCallum Leonard, BSED '49

L. Ray Maurer, BSCOM '49
Warren McIntire Jr., BSCOM '49
Marabel Newton Miller, AB '49
Harry Milligan, AB '49
Jared Owens, BSCOM '49
Joseph Serksnis, BSCOM '49

1950s

Thomas Barrett, BSED '50
Jean Fisher Dwell, AB '50
Virginia Johnson Fraser, BSED '50
Albert Hauschulz III, BSCOM '50
Martin Leonard, BSIE '50
Jesabel McQuain Linscott, BS '50
Charles Logan, BSJ '50
John Peterson, BSCOM '50
Audrey Gould Schechter, AB '50
Harold Schwendeman, AB '50
Dale Thayer, BFA '50
Bertram Bernstein, BSEE '51
Ann Everson, BSHEC '51
Joseph Kovach, BSED '51
Frank McLaughlin, AA '51
Rosemarie Stanek Murie, BSED '51
Gerald Prucha, BSCOM '51
Andrew Savchuk, BSED '51
Kenneth Tabor, BSED '51
Marilyn Elder Tuma, BSED '51
Edman Zink, BS '51
Domenick Colella, BSED '52
Mary McLeish Honnold, BSHEC '52
Edward Phillips, BS '52
Robert Reed, BSED '52, MED '62
Roger Scott, AB '52
Edgar Wilk, BSCE '52
Ricahrd Brison, AB '53
Dorothy Schnitzler Burke, AA '53
Betty Humphreys Efland, BFA '53
William Kearns, MA '53, PHD '74
Rosemary Bowers Levreault, MA '53
Robert Luikart, AB '53
Lewis Ondis II, BS '53
Philip Van Brocklin, BSME '53
William Wright, BS '53, MS '57
Harold Allen, BSED '54
John Gray, BSCOM '54
Sarah Smock Haehnlen, AB '54
Arthur Luempert, BSEE '54
James Pittenger, BSME '54
Varsay Sirleaf, BS '54
Barbara Beard, AB '55, MA '61
John Hackett, BSED '55, MED '68
David Henry, BSCOM '55
John Sharpe, BSJ '55
Gerald Watts, BSCOM '55
Paul Bremigan, BSED '56
Larry Harper, BSJ '56



Dolores H. Russ

Dolores H. Russ, longtime benefactor of Ohio University and the Fritz J. and Dolores H. Russ College of Engineering and Technology, died Jan. 1, 2008, in Naples, Fla. She was 86.

Dolores was married for 62 years to the late Ohio University electrical engineering alumnus Fritz Russ, who preceded her in death in 2004.

The Russes were a lifelong team that co-founded one of the nation's largest independent engineering and high-tech research firms and dedicated their lives to engineering education.

In 1994, the university's College of Engineering was renamed for them in honor of their support for Ohio University.

"Thousands of students and faculty members benefited from Dolores and Fritz's generosity," said Dennis Irwin, dean of the Russ College. "Perhaps most significant, though, was their dream to encourage innovation in engineering because of their belief that the appropriate role of engineering is to improve life."

The couple endowed via Ohio University the National Academy of Engineering Russ Prize, one of the top three engineering prizes in the world, in 1999. The \$500,000 prize, which recognizes engineering innovations that improve the human condition, has been awarded to the co-inventors of the implantable heart pacemaker, the inventors of kidney dialysis and the first blood oxygen sensor, and most recently to the "father" of modern biomechanics.

The Russes have bequeathed to Ohio University more than \$80 million, the university's largest gift to date.



Jody Galbreath Phillips

Joan "Jody" Galbreath Phillips, BSED '46, who in 1974 became the first woman to chair the Ohio University Board of Trustees, died April 21, 2008. She was 83.

Phillips was the daughter of John W. Galbreath, a longtime Ohio University trustee, and Helen Mauck Galbreath, for whom Galbreath Chapel is named. She was well-known for her support for Ohio Athletics and the College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Lynwood Kleinhoffer, BFA '56
Richard Lane, BS '56
Charles Snyder, BFA '56
Evelyn Coughlin, BSHEC '57
Robert Hall, BSCOM '57
Wilda Heldman, AB '57
Mohler Martin, BSAGR '57
George Palmer, BSEE '57
Richard Planck, BSCOM '57
Charlotte Jenks Conley, BSED '58
Ross King, BSED '58, MS '59
Paul Lucas, BSED '58
Deirdre Reynolds Madden, BFA '58
Joseph Paytash Jr., MED '58
Charles Rose, BSED '58, MED '61
John Sember Jr., BSCOM '58
Chester Stephens, BSCE '58
Robert Findlay, BS '59
Phyllis Conner Parry, BSED '59
Sharon Jentes Rea, AA '59
Gary Thatcher, BFA '59
Ronald Ulshafer, MA '59

1960s

Robert Bednar, BSJ '60
Robert Bell, BFA '60
Margaret Wolpert Haney, BSED '60
Thomas Marting, BS '60
Harry Thomas, BSCOM '60
Gerald Bowling, BS '61
Paul Erdy, BSME '61
Kenneth Hoffman, BSJ '61
Donald Hoyt, AB '61
Henry McAllen, AB '61
Annette Brubaker Ritchie, BFA '61
Robert Loufek, BFA '62
Bernice Cook Barrett, BSED '63
Gerald Clutter, BSED '63
John Cornwell, BSED '63
Nicholas Disanto, BS '63
K.D. Fosnaught, BS '63
Harold Miller, AB '63, MS '65
Sharon Spencer, BSED '63
Janet Hanna, BA '64, MA '70

Larry Lamm, BSED '64
Charles Lontor, BSED '64
Barrie Phillips, BSEE '64
Timothy Walters, AB '64
Genevieve Elliott Brown, BSED '65
James Daugherty, BBA '65
Rebecca Silverstein Fishbach, BFA '65
Betty Ivers Lathrop, BSED '65
Robert Miller, BBA '65
Myrtle Lundgren Conway, BSED '66
Phillip Knox, BBA '66
Nancy Moore Barnett, BSED '67
Joseph Clarke, BS '67
William Ganter Jr., BBA '67
Larry Lagrave, MFA '67
Pamela Angle Logsdon, BSHEC '67
Edward Planisek, BBA '67
Michael Prots, BBA '67
Michelle Barnhill Snyder, AB '67
John Zevnik, BS '67
M. Jean Ekers Berns, BFA '68, PHD '86
James Maxey, BBA '69
James Philomena, AB '69
Richard Piotrowski, MS '69
Albert Rau, MA '69
David Richmond, BS '69
Brenda Colvin Wade, BSED '69
Hester Wolfe, BSED '69

1970s

Vivian Aplin Brownlee, BSJ '70
Timothy Cockrell, AB '70
Anthony Crawford, BSED '70, MED '73
Dallas Deluzio, BSJ '70
Larry Gladwell, BSED '70
Nancee Pittman Ponder, BSHEC '70
Edward Reed, BSCE '70, MSCE '72
Richard Verardi, AA '70
William Waters, BSED '70
Mary Evans Fletcher, BSED '71
Frederick Harry, BSCE '71

Angeline Colosimo Moskel, BSED '71
Earl Railey Jr., AB '71, MED '72, MED '73
Thomas Rosenberry, BBA '71
Frank Ruzicka III, BSED '71
Edward Williams, AB '71
Howard Barcus, BSED '72
Stephen Biondo, BSJ '72
Martha Chapman, BSJ '72
Debbie Spieker Klein, BSC '72
Samuel Otigbe, MS '72
Thomas Stuart, BBA '72, MBA '84
Seth Moranz, BS '73
David Thrush, BSED '73
Paul Yeskel, BSC '73
Susan Blaskevica, AB '74
Julie Peck Carpenter, BSHEC '74
Charity McClure Cheadle, BGS '74
Sharon Heckel Davis, MS '74
Paul Holbrook, BFA '74, MFA '76
Marsha Bassel Holowinko, AB '74
Kenneth Roberts, BSC '74
James Compher, BBA '75
Bruce Dolfi, BS '75
Gregory McCullough, BSED '75
Mary Schwable Gilliland, BSED '76
Thomas Hayman, BSED '76
Scott Love, BBA '76
William Gibson III, BMUS '77
Tom Lankamer, BBA '77
Gordon Rust, AB '77
Rosetta Parker, BGS '78
Richard Delong, MA '79
Sharon Graves Hartman, BSN '79

1980s

Scott Brown, BBA '80
Geoffrey Erb, BSC '80
Gloria McElvy Norris, MED '80
Mary O'Hara Marsh, BSC '81
Gregory Prario, BBA '81
Karen Welling, BFA '82, MS '86
Linda Hinze, AA '83, AB '91
Bernice Queen, BSED '83
David Lewis, MS '84
Lance Morris, BSC '84
Peter McGreen, PHD '85
Karen Stith, AAB '85
Clifford Wasko, MED '85
Marsha Lucas Greene, BSED '86
Thomas Spencer, BS '86, DO '90
Leonard Wehling III, BSC '86
Paul Gillmor, LLD '87
Brian Ross, BSC '88
Dawna Hughes, BBA '89

1990s

Barbara Halstead Ramsey, AS '91
Christopher Glasgow, BFA '93
Allie Jensen, MM '93
Bea Mackender, MED '94
Shawn Tiller, BSH '97
Brandon Leist, BS '98
Elizabeth Waterson, BSVC '99

2000s

David Litt, PHD '01
Bonnie Windish, MED '01
Chad Falco, BSCE '04
Janice Wallenburg, BSED '04
Justin Miller, BA '05
Jerrid Hagan, BBA '06
James Justice, BBA '06
Megan Schlaegel, BSSPS '06
Theodore Hale, BBA '07
Rebecca Skorupka, BSSPS '07

Faculty/staff

Gregory Campbell, Millfield, Ohio, IT support specialist in the College of Osteopathic Medicine, Oct. 1, 2007

Regina Cunningham, Chillicothe, former records management associate at Chillicothe campus, Jan. 3, 2008

Rosalind Sprague Hickenbottom, Athens, former assistant professor of physical therapy, Sept. 6, 2007

Marc Kidby, BSC '03, Athens, administrative associate in Research and Sponsored Programs, April 1, 2008

Bob Rakowski, Athens, professor of biological sciences, Feb. 19, 2008

Roy Vance Ramsey, Athens, professor emeritus of English, July 22, 2007

In Memoriam was compiled by Meredith McIntosh with assistance from Advancement Services.

From one small seed ... grow abundant branches

By Charles J. Ping



A century ago, sycamore saplings were planted on the College Green. These stately trees now shade thousands who travel Ohio University's brick pathways. We are indebted to those with the foresight to plant these trees, not for themselves, but for future generations.

Beth K. Stocker would have celebrated her 100th birthday this spring. A 1928 alumna, Beth was a kind soul and steadfast friend to alma mater. Her legacy, too, has taken root at Ohio University.

Beth passed away in August 2005. Recently, The Ohio University Foundation received \$5 million from her estate. This gift was the culmination of more than 50 years of philanthropy and brought total giving by Beth and her husband, the late C. Paul Stocker, to \$31.9 million.

This remarkable sum — and all that has grown from it — was born of a small seed: the contribution of \$500 in 1962.

For me to remember Beth is to see Paul and Beth together. Although he preceded her in death by 27 years, they were joined again on the very same day, August 23.

Paul and Beth were blessed with three daughters, eight grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. Much to her delight, Beth was able to watch this family grow, and the children and their children were blessed to have had this remarkable woman with them for so many years.

Much like their family, the Stockers' legacy at Ohio University has prospered. One need not look far to see what has grown up from their first gift: Stocker Engineering and Technology Center; the Stocker Scholars, Professors and Research Fund in engineering; the 1804 Fund; Stocker-Manasseh Cutler Scholars; and the Program to Aid Career Exploration (PACE).

I carry in my heart a sentence from Paul's last will and testament. A few months before he wrote that will, Paul asked me to come to his home in Lorain, Ohio, to talk. At the time, I had no idea what the conversation was really about.

One of the questions Paul asked was, "If you could provide

resources for the College of Engineering and Technology, what would be the most important to fund?" I didn't realize it then, but Paul was working with Beth to revise his will. After his death, I was deeply moved to find language of our conversation in his will. But the sentence I cherish was their own. It reflects the fact that the gift to Ohio University was a shared decision, a gift from both Beth and Paul.



The devotion C. Paul and Beth K. Stocker had for Ohio University has touched literally thousands of lives.

In the text, Paul expressed his great love and affection for their daughters and grandchildren, going on to say it was their wish and desire to create with the greatest part of the estate "the gift of educational opportunity for the young of the present and future generations, as we have had the enjoyment of the privileges and rewards of our educational opportunity during our lifetimes."

Shortly after Paul made the \$8 million commitment, a corporate takeover prompted a surge in stock that had been included in the gift, increasing the overall value of the bequest to more than \$13 million.

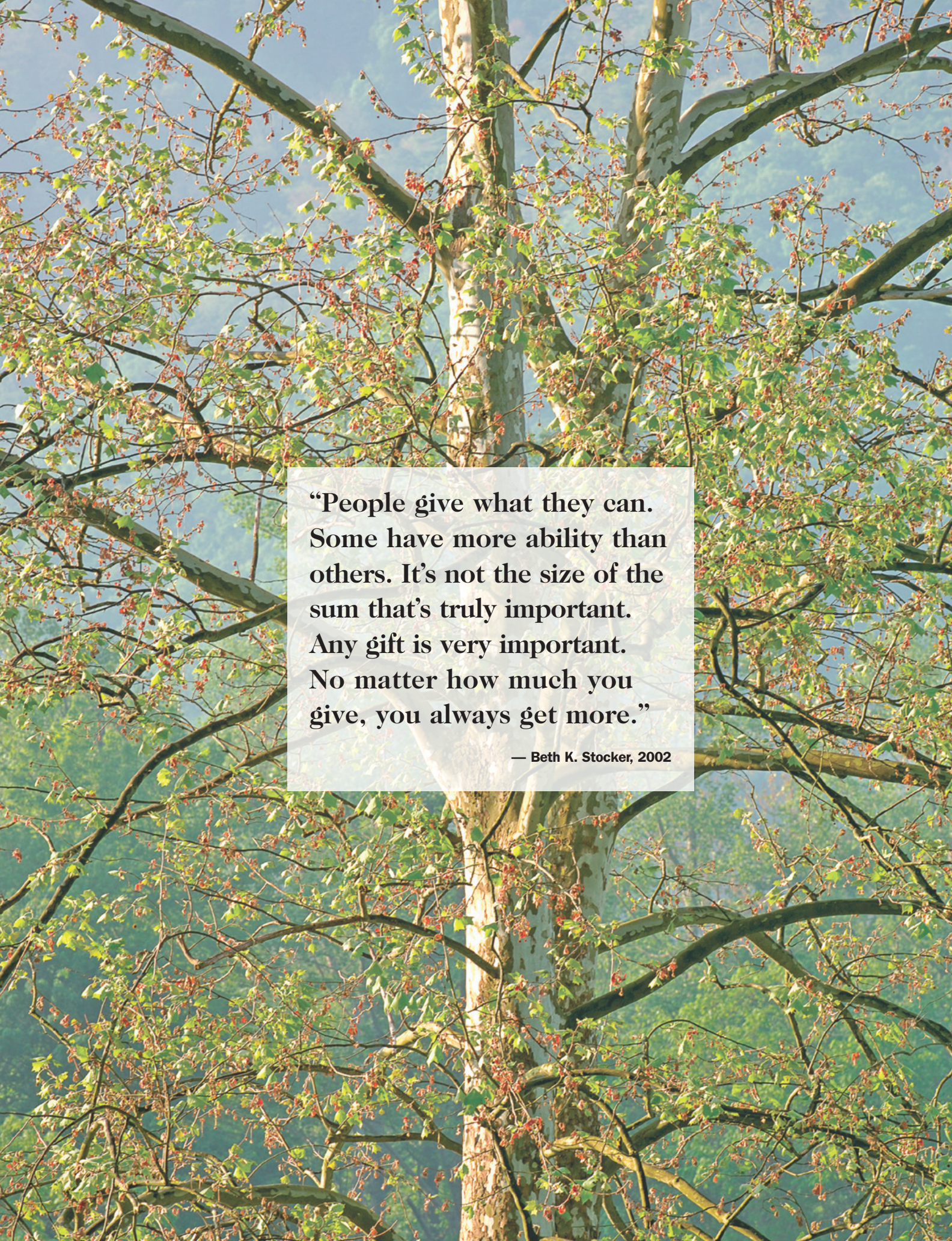
This provided an endowed chair in electrical engineering and a division of the rest, with half going as a restricted endowment to the College of Engineering and Technology.

With the first year of income from the Stocker endowment, the college bought more equipment than it had in the previous decade. And the endowment enabled the college to increase funded research more than twentyfold.

The other half created the 1804 Fund to strengthen research and support undergraduate education. To date, it has provided nearly \$14 million to more than 550 projects and programs.

A long line of faculty and young people — and their future contributions to society — stand as a living memorial to Paul and Beth Stocker, a tribute to good and faithful stewards who gave "the gift of educational opportunity."

President Emeritus Charles J. Ping led Ohio University from 1975 to 1994. Today, he is a Trustee Professor of philosophy and education and co-directs the Manasseh Cutler Scholars Program.



**“People give what they can.
Some have more ability than
others. It’s not the size of the
sum that’s truly important.
Any gift is very important.
No matter how much you
give, you always get more.”**

— Beth K. Stocker, 2002

A giving tree

Much like a family tree reaches upward as families grow, so too has the impact of Paul and Beth Stocker's philanthropy. Trace their giving across multiple generations of OHIO students and faculty — from the Program to Aid Career Exploration (or PACE) and scholarships



"I can't imagine what the Russ College would be without the Stockers. There is such a unique balance of teaching and research here, and the Stocker money has been supportive of that. The Stocker emphasis on this breadth of ways to make a program strong is remarkable."

— Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering
Carole A. Womeldorf

Faculty support fund recipient, 2007–08



"Mrs. Stocker's goal was to touch students with this 'spark' that engineering can be more than the application of Maxwell's equations or interpreting log plots. What that 'more' is depends on the student."

— **Dustin Priestersbach**, BSIT '08
Former Stocker Scholar in the Russ College



"PACE really was a career choice. It was a career that started with an internship and the Stocker money in this field. I had a big impact on the work by providing them that the

Director
Former



"The Stocker scholarship has enabled me to take on the world. The ideals that Mrs. Stocker wrote into her scholarship fuel my desire to dream big, enter the healthcare field and help others for the rest of my life. I thank her every day while walking to class."

— **Erika Swanson**, junior in biological sciences
Beth K. Stocker-Manasseh Cutler Scholar

to the 1804 Fund and faculty summer research grants to University Libraries and Stocker Engineering Center — and one finds each branch as distinctive and meaningful as the array of projects and people touched by their generosity. The strength of their common roots — education, discovery and opportunity — leave a legacy of worth so profound, it's impossible to measure. We've traced part of the Stockers' giving tree and proudly introduce you to a few of the thousands of members of their extended OHIO family, each one a powerful example of how when we give what we can, one gift can grow into something more. Much more.



“When Beth passed away, we lost one of the great, gentle citizens of the world. She devoted most of her life to raising her family and instilling in them the same humble, generous approach to life that she so graciously shared with us.”

— Russ College Dean **Dennis Irwin Moss**
Professor of Engineering Education
Faculty support fund recipient, 1987–88

as the stepping stone for my
Development is not initially a
students look into, but with an
experience like PACE, funded by
s, I had opportunities to explore
would really like to leave an
each student I engage with in my
providing the same opportunities for
the PACE program did for me.”

— Alumna **Natalie Rohlfis**, BSJ '03
Director of annual giving, Wright State University
PACE student in the Office of Development



“The 1804 Fund is helping us to bring cutting-edge scholarship to Ohio University and to highlight the strength of Ohio University's African Studies program nationally, which raises our prestige. It gives us an opportunity to raise important issues and look at things more broadly and from a historical perspective.”

— Assistant Professor of History **Nicholas Creary**
1804 Fund award recipient



“PACE has given me great opportunities and experiences that have helped me to realize what I want to do in my future career. I thank the Stockers for giving students like myself the opportunity to work with great faculty and to see them in a different light — as people, not just teachers.”

— **Kevin Meyer**, BSC and BSVC '08
PACE student in the Center for Academic Technology

End note.

A more harmonious pairing couldn't be orchestrated. Jennifer Climer plays many instruments, but the trombone, she insists, "just fits; I sound the best on it." Others must agree. Already, she has performed at Carnegie Hall, with the Rome Festival Orchestra and, most recently, at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. She says her parents, also musicians, and the School of Music have been instrumental in her success. Her noteworthy aspirations are to teach and become a female presence in the conducting world.

Read about more "Promising Futures" inside on pages 10–15.

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